

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: dwink@juno.com (Daniel C Winkler)  
Subject: [12842] (long) How to Transmit on the received station's frequency  
Message-ID: <19970223.073257.4951.6.DWink@juno.com>

Gang,

Sometime back, in response to a thread about conserving bandwidth, Dave Mathews asked how one goes about being sure his(her) transmitted signal is indeed zero beat with the station being answered. There were several posts, but I suspected the explanations were a little off the mark. I asked Dave if he'd gotten an answer- - -

On Thu, 20 Feb Dave writes:

>...I didn't really get an answer. ...

I originally posted this reply to Dave alone. But then I recalled that several people have asked that such answers go on the list, since there are always "lurkers" who read and learn, and would like to know this or that, but don't speak up.

Question: Am I clogging up the band (list) with this? Or should I not post such things to the list. Feedback please.

\*\*\*Transmitting on a received station's frequency:\*\*\*

I'll take the dc receiver first, since I think you might have a misconception there. A dc receiver does indeed have two audio images, and the bfo will indeed be exactly on the other station's frequency when you tune to a zero beat- that is, exactly between the two audio images. But most transceiver designs also incorporate an offset for transmit. A small additional capacitance is added (or subtracted) from the vfo (it is called a vfo when used for the transmitter, but the very same oscillator is called the bfo when it is used for a dc receiver!). The transmit frequency is shifted by about 700 hz on transmit, so that you can transmit on the same frequency as the other fellow and still hear him (with a 700 Hz beat note) when you drop back to receive. So the answer is no, proper tuning is NOT at zero beat with the two audio images equally spaced from your bfo (unless you have a very primitive transceiver like the 40-niner which has no transmit offset in the stock configuration.) Proper tuning is when your received beat note is about 700 Hz.

The only trick is, you have to know which way your transceiver

shifts. You can figure it out from the schematic. Is a little more capacitance added to the oscillator tank during transmit? That will shift the frequency lower on transmit, so you should be listening to the other station on the audio beat note that is \*below\* the zero beat- ie, the first beat you come to as you tune higher in frequency. That is how the HW-8 does it, but I added a switch to be able to have the shift go the other way so's I can listen to the upper sideband note instead and avoid QRM.

OK, so you knew that already. How do you make sure that your transmitted signal is really \*right on\* the other station? Well, with some rigs there is a switch to disable the frequency offset, so you can "spot" the other station. Lacking that (and most rigs do, although it is easy to add such a feature), you simply have to match his tone to your sidetone. If the rig has been designed and aligned properly, that offset should equal the sidetone frequency. How can you check? The best way is to use another receiver (you can easily hear the bfo of a dc receiver.) You can also check with a frequency counter, but in that case you have to be aware that the capacitance of the probe will change the frequency of an unbuffered oscillator. If your oscillator has a buffer stage, you can use a counter, otherwise not.

The third way to check your transmit offset is to ask another ham who lives nearby to listen to your transmitted signal and tell you when it is zero beat with HIS receiver. That pre-supposes that he can tell when a received signal is exactly on his transmitted signal. Alternatively you can both tune in to a SW broadcast station. Transmit briefly, and have the other station tell you when you're right on the SW broadcast station's carrier freq. (use the {gasp} phone.) Use the lowest power you can, of course, and try to do this when the band is dead. Then listen with your set and see what audio pitch you have. That is the received pitch you need to be hearing in order to be transmitting right on the other station's frequency. (I am assuming your OHR rig is for 40m.)(no handy SW stations on the other bands.) Of course, you can use another rf source (instead of a SW carrier) for this check if you have both rigs in the same room and you've got a grid dip oscillator or crystal oscillator or rf generator or a third rig or an MFJ-249 antenna analyzer or... well, even a SW carrier. With a receiver right in the room with your rig, you can transmit into a dummy load and be sure not to bother anyone else.

But you have a superhet. Well, that third method will also work for a superhet. You need a second receiver and a signal source. Listening with the second receiver, tune your OHR transmitter until you're right on top of the signal source. Use the lowest possible power and/or a dummy load. (Again, you could have a nearby ham listen as

you zero-beat a SW broadcast station's carrier, using the lowest possible power when the band is dead.) Then listen to the signal source with your OHR's receiver and see where you are. That's the tone (or pitch) you need in order for your transmitted signal to be zero beat with the other station's transmit frequency. And as I said, the rig should be constructed so that the sidetone pitch is the same, so that you can match the received station's pitch with the sidetone pitch. Even people with "tin ears" can match frequencies fairly closely (with a few exceptions.)

So the answer is: use the sidetone pitch to guess what the received station's audio beat note should be. Oh, I forgot, you've got RIT. TURN IT OFF. Unless you work those stations who "listen up" a few KHz., the RIT is not terribly useful. And if you \*do\* want to work one of those stations, then turn off (or center) your RIT, go up a few KHz and find a frequency where no one else is transmitting, and then use the RIT to go back down to the other station. If your RIT lets you tune both up and down, then set it to its middle position (some rigs use a pot with a center detent for the RIT control). I really think RIT has no place in simple gear.

Now, lastly, you should realize that I do VERY little operating. So other hams may not agree with all I've said. I am mostly a builder type. I just finished FYBO - I made two (2) contacts in about as many hours! Well, there were some distractions, but not many. I'm just a lousy operator. Real operators may feel differently about RIT.

Bedtime for me. Hope that helps.

73, ; D DWink@Juno.com Dan Winkler N7IVR Seattle, WA

-----whom the gods would destroy, they first make proud -----

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: wb2vuo@juno.com (William K Hibbert)  
Subject: [12840] /QRP or not???  
Message-ID: <19970223.101506.4679.6.wb2vuo@juno.com>

It seems like a option to me. I have signed /QRP and I have operated

without the /QRP...

I don't put the /QRP on during any contest anymore. Both regular and RABID contest ops grow extra ears during such events, and can hear one THINK of calling them :-)

For casual operation, the /QRP is totally up to the op. Do I remember correctly that our Brethren and Sistren in the UK aren't allowed to sign the /QRP and just add QRP without the fraction bar???

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, QRP-L #582, scQRP 40, Tech Specialist (ARRL/WNY),  
ARRL Life Member, VP/BARK, Beacon Chaircritter, Rochester VHF Group  
Trustee, KB2YTW/B 10 Mtr QRPP Beacon (250 mW @ 28.2870 MHz)  
"In the Depths of the Great Bergen (NY) Swamp...FN13ac"  
Packet - wb2vuo@w2im.#wny.ny.usa.noam  
Email - wb2vuo@juno.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: svecbrdk@well.com (L.Svec,W.Burdick)  
Subject: [12871] 20-Meter SST is on the air! Plus: SST sneak preview  
Message-ID: <199702231950.LAA15304@mail.well.com>

Hi Folks,

Just worked Al, K0FRP, for the first 20-meter SST contact! I hope to be on the air with the SST quite a bit over the next week, probably in the morning, and possibly mobile as well (in the parking lot at work at lunch time :).

When I put the SST on 20 meters, I found that the band had heavy QRN from local power poles. Solution? A Buzznot! The Buzznot noiseblanker fits nicely just above the SST's receive mixer, so I'm going to include connection points for it in the final version of the PC board.

On to the real business:

Since so many people have been prodding me for SST info, here is the latest.

The SST is going to be offered for 20m, 30m, 40m, and 40m/novice.

The final parts count is about 77. To put this in context, the NW8020 has 150 parts, the NorCal 40A has 120, and the 38-Special has 100. My goal with the SST was to see just how low you could go and still have really good performance.

The SST receiver is a superhet with a sharp, three-crystal filter, operating at a low I.F. (around 4MHz). The receiver uses a novel AGC circuit employing a single LED as both the detector and signal indicator (more on this in the article). The AF gain control and headphone jack are on the front panel. The RF gain is rarely used in the SST, so I put it on the back.

The transmitter has *really* fast, exceptionally clean (I mean totally thump-free) QSK with TX monitoring, as in the '40A. Power output is around 2 watts on all three bands with a 13.8V supply, and proportionally less at 12V or 9V. Power out is adjustable down to zero.

I decided to go with a varactor-controlled VXO rather than a VFO. Stability is excellent. Frequency coverage (approximate):

|            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| 40m        | 7.032 - 7.042   |
| 40m/novice | 7.105 - 7.115   |
| 30m        | 10.105 - 10.120 |
| 20m        | 14.046 - 14.064 |

VXO range can be increased by switching in a second varactor. All VXO and I.F. crystals used are *standard* frequencies available from Digikey.

The custom enclosure is about 3W x 3.5D x 1.5H", and will be supplied unfinished. Since the box is so small, I went with .050 aluminum to reduce weight. (With a KC1 on the top and an internal 9V lithium battery, the SST makes a great TFR! It so completely out-performs the 40-9er that I wish I had done the SST first :)

I'm sending the article to Doug today, and it will appear in the next QRPP. The article describes primarily the 40m version, but component details on all bands will be provided with the kit and published in a subsequent issue of QRPP. The kit will come with all controls, connectors, and cabinet.

The club price will be announced in the article, and orders will be taken until May 1 at that price. Delivery of the kits will likely be in late May.

I don't know if orders will be taken prior to the publication of QRPP. I'll have to check with Bob Dyer at Wilderness Radio, who is doing the kitting for the club. In any case, there will be *no limit* on the number of kits sold at the club price as long as the orders are received by May 1. After that, field-test data will be used to update the design, and if all goes well it may become a Wilderness kit at a slightly higher price. Stay tuned for details.

Wayne  
N6KR

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "Hidehiko Komachi" <ja9mat@nsknet.or.jp>  
Subject: [12829] Added 49er on my WebSite  
Message-ID: <199702230755.QAA05114@po.nsknet.or.jp>

Hello OMs!  
I've completed The Norcal 49er and added on my WebSite today!  
It's has a simple "Red Button Keyer" and "9V Battery" in it.  
You will see them at my WebSite.  
Plese visit again! 72.

\*\* de,JA9MAT,Hidehiko KOMACHI,E-Mail;ja9mat@nsknet.or.jp \*\*\*  
W.W.Web.Site;<http://www.nsknet.or.jp/~ja9mat/Index.htm>  
Member of JA-QRP#036,G-QRP#9128,Alaska-QRP#025,QRP/L #761...

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Jim and Nancy Larsen <larsennnc@alaska.net>  
Subject: [12797] Alaska FYBO (notice it says YB, not mine.)  
Message-ID: <330F95B8.AD3@alaska.net>

Well, I had a few minutes of fun. Temperature was pushing 72 F but the band was not that good up here. Worked four stations. The Radio Shack DSP actually helped.

WA5WHN (NM)  
N4ROA (VA)  
N4SO (AL)  
WU7F (WA)

N4BP refused to work me...sniff! I called and called and called and called and called and called and etc. Time was centered around 2226Z, too many others calling the monster station of BP. :-)

See you all tomorrow.

73,

Jim  
AL7FS  
Anchorage, Alaska

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "Len W. Tough" <len@infinet.com>  
Subject: [12852] Builders Report: Kanga Bag-O-Parts Xmitter  
Message-ID: <199702231617.LAA15615@mail1.infinet.com>

Hi Gang

A while back, I asked the group for ideas on my next kit project. This is what I have chosen to do while I am waiting for a larger scale kit to arrive (suprise!!!):

I just wanted to let the group know that I have been tinkering with a kit that Kanga calls the "Bag-O-Parts" any band transmitter.

Hey, this kit (or should I say parts, parts list and schematics) is fun!!! It is essentially bags of parts with good schematics, parts lists, and hints that allow you to build a QRP transmitter on the HF band of your choice. There is no board, and no step-by-step "place the Black-Brown-Red resistor in hole marked R-17" instructions, but the schematics are broken-up into block assembly. This consists of VFO, AMP, Phase Shifter, RIT/Sidetone. The intermediate and advanced kitbuilder will have little trouble with this kit.

You start with the VFO assembly, and get it producing a good stable signal for the band you want to set the transmitter up for. You then move on to the amp curcuit, then the Sidetone/RIT.

There is no printed curcuit board, just very nicely laid out parts lists, and block schematic diagrams. I found this approach interesting, fun, and refreshing! I used two small copper-clad curcuit boards (from your local Radio Shack), and assembly flowed from the schematic to the parts list to the boards with a little concentration and effort. You will find that when you finish the VFO curcuit, you will need to enclose it in a shielded compartment to minimize frequency jump when you key the rig. The hints suggest using pieces of un-etched PC board, but I used a very small metal box. Without the enclosure, my frequency did indeed jump about 2 or 3 Kc every time the rig was keyed. I seem to have no problem now that the VFO is shielded.

I originally set the little xmitter up for 40 meters, and have since experimented with 20 and 30 meters. Heck, this kit is so much fun to play with, you can use an experimenters board and play with the curcuit until you get what you want. I am still in the midst of deciding which band will be my final solution. I have (with a few KG8SF Modifications - heh heh) about 4 watts out on 40 meters. I will probably add the mini R2 receiver at some point for a nifty little package.

The bottom line here, is that if you are ready for some kitbuilding/experimentation/feel-like-u-designed-homebrewed-es-diagnosed-ur-own-rig sort of fun, try this kit. I personally think it is good springboard from simple assembly step-by-step kits to more advanced kitbuilding. The experimentation value alone is worth the investment in my book. If interested, check out the article that this little rig is based on. It appeared in the November, 1995 issue of QST - pages 41-46 authored by Rick Campbell - KK7B. There has since been a \*corrected\* article that appeared in the ARRL book - QRP Power.

Compared to some other members on this list, my electronic curcuit design and conceptualization skills are laughable. I can imagine some of the list members taking this design and producing a real FB final rig with great mods es other variations.

Kanga can be contacted by internet - kanga@bright.net

Usual disclaimers, as always, apply.

Best 72/3

Len

KG8SF

len@infinet.com

kg8sf@key.com

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QRP-L # 841

CQrp # 2

ARCI # 9025

FISTS # 2134

CHARTER MEMBER - THE COLUMBUS QRP CLUB - CQrp

Web Page: <http://www.infinet.com/~len>

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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: Mike Czuhajewski <wa8mcq@u1.abs.net>

Subject: [12796] Cambion variable caps from HB

Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.970222195424.5615B-100000@u1.abs.net>



There was a recent posting about a catalog from HB Electronics via snail mail. Here's a note on their variable capacitors.

Some time back I got e-mail from them with a special deal on some Cambion panel-mount air variable caps for a buck each (which are still in their catalog). Although I have "tons" of caps already, he hit me at a weak moment so I ordered a dozen of various values, sight unseen. He did give the Cambion part number (type 563-7637- ##), but I was too lazy to look them up somewhere. The e-mail said that they were screwdriver adjustable but could be converted to knob use with a Dremel and a cutoff wheel. You can also do it with a hack saw, though. (Their catalog now contains what appears to be the same type of capacitor but with a 1/4" shaft, for \$4 each, in addition to the screwdriver adjustable type at one buck. I have no idea whether these are made differently or if he just chops down the bushing himself, but either way it's a big difference in price and well worth a bit of hacking!)

These caps are single bearing, the type with a slab of ceramic material as the body (a little over 1 X 1.4", and 0.16" thick), with stator bolted to it. As they come out of the bag, the mounting bushing is about 0.58" long and the shaft (with screwdriver slot in the end) is about 0.65", leaving about 1/16" for your knob. (The bushing is tapered and slotted at the end, for use with a shaft locking nut which is provided.) Due to the construction, you can shorten the bushing and get some space for a knob or coupler. You can get up to about 0.55" of shaft, although that leaves no thread for mounting to a panel by way of the bushing and a nut--you'd have to use screws and nuts thru the holes in the ceramic.

There's nothing welded or soldered--the caps are assembled only with nuts and threaded studs, and you can take them apart completely with a screwdriver and a pair of pliers. Disassemble completely, taking care to lay the parts out in the proper sequence so you don't spend 10 extra minutes figuring how to reassemble it. I found it necessary to remove the stator as well, to provide clearance when removing the bushing from the ceramic.

Take out the bushing, put one or more nuts on it, down all the way, then cut off as much as you want with a hacksaw. If you forget to put on a nut or two first, you'll have a much harder time during reassembly, trying to get the nuts back onto a hacked-up thread.

Another important consideration: remember that when the bushing is put back in place, it must have enough thread left to accommodate the thickness of the ceramic body, the nut to hold it to the body, panel thickness and a final nut to hold it all to the panel (and maybe a

washer as well). Don't cut off too much like I did on the first one!

If you prefer to leave the stator in place and save some work, just remove all of the rotor parts and shaft, leave the bushing attached to the ceramic plate and cut it off that way. (But be careful how you hold it, so you don't crack the ceramic--secure the slotted end of the bushing in a vise, don't clamp on the ceramic.) Again, be sure to put a nut on it before cutting to clean out the threads, and leave enough length to accommodate all nuts and panel thickness.

If all of this is too much work, you can fall back on a variation of the Dremel method, which is to use a hacksaw, cut into the bushing until you just hit the shaft, rotate the whole thing slightly and repeat until you've gone all the way around. It won't be as pretty, but should work.

Their addresses--[hb.electronics@businessson.com](mailto:hb.electronics@businessson.com) for e-mail and [www.businessson.com/hamparts](http://www.businessson.com/hamparts) for you webbers.

Usual disclaimers; he's not a friend or a broher-in-law, I don't have my 401K money invested in him, etc; I have no connection with HB except as a customer.

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

[wa8mcq@abs.net](mailto:wa8mcq@abs.net)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: "John Kirk, VE6XT" <[jakirk@freenet.calgary.ab.ca](mailto:jakirk@freenet.calgary.ab.ca)>

Subject: [12862] Charging Gel Cells

Message-ID: <[Pine.A32.3.93.970223110738.23594B-1000000@srv1.freenet.calgary.ab.ca](mailto:Pine.A32.3.93.970223110738.23594B-1000000@srv1.freenet.calgary.ab.ca)>

Hi Matt:

Conventional wisdom says to charge any unknown battery at 10% of its ampere hour rating for 150 to 160% of the discharge rate. I have found this to be pretty conservative and low risk (though not always convenient). For your 1.3 amp-hour gel cell, this works out to 130 mA for 15 to 16 hours. If, at the end, you don't have a no-load voltage of something like 13 VDC, then it probably is a sick puppy anyway. I don't believe gel cels respond to "exercise" like nicads do, so it would be the end of the road for that particular pack.

As far as charge circuits go, "KISS" rules my domain. I was fortunate enough to pick up a nice Lambda 0-48 VDC 3 Amp adjustable power supply

some years ago at a flea market, so I simply series up the supply, a large resistor, my VOM on its mA scale, and the battery. I tweak the supply until the charge current is 130 mA (for your example), then walk away. It is desirable to use as large a resistor as possible (and lots of voltage), as that ensures that the charge current is more or less constant. It is a good idea to check the lash-up several times over the 15 hour period, and to disconnect it promptly once done. If you are prone to forgetting these kinds of things, a cheap security timer might be a good add-on. A series diode might be worthwhile, too, as some power supplies have no sense of humour about being reverse charged.

Good luck!

John

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: ac5am@juno.com (Robert L Stolzle)  
Subject: [12836] CQC contest...15M opening, hopefully...  
Message-ID: <19970223.084209.8630.0.ac5am@juno.com>

Say all you 15M QRPers,

Today, Feb.23, I will be on 15M, on the hour, starting at 1700Z on or near 21.060 Mhz. Looking

for an opening with my 1 watt "powerhouse". (Thanks Jay, but its all in the antenna, mon ami )

Hopefully 15M will give us an opening so we can get some QSO points in the CQC contest.

15M for opening salvos... whatsa???

72/73,

Bob, AC5AM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: ALK0FRP@aol.com  
Subject: [12865] Dates for CQC  
Message-ID: <970223134824\_-1005307546@emout20.mail.aol.com>

Gang

oh Oh wrong dates on message Yes 2200z 23rd to 0400z 24th  
The Computer did it all by itself  
Cu all later this after noon in CQC contest

Remember work W0CQCand get 1000 pts

Al K0FRP

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: James Parsons <k5rov1@worldnet.att.net>  
Subject: [12838] Dead bands...  
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19970223145822.0066f1f4@204.127.3.1>

Well, you never know! 15 meters was completely dead this morning, but I decided to call a CQ anyway. Back came RA2FJ/MM in the English Channel, running 20 watts. I admit I was QRO, running 100 watts. But, it proves the bands may be open, if we just give them a try. He was the only station I heard, until I started calling CQ. More CQ's, more stations...all on a dead band!

Jim, K5ROV

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "Bill Kelsey - N8ET - Kanga US" <kanga@mail.bright.net>  
Subject: [12814] Dearborn, MI Hamfest on Sunday  
Message-ID: <199702230409.XAA21308@mail.bright.net>

I will be at the Dearborn Mi. hamfest on Sunday with Pat - WS8T - from Buckeye Electronics. Hope to meet some of the Michigan QRP crowd.

73

73 - Bill - N8ET  
Kanga US  
kanga@mail.bright.net  
<http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/kanga/>  
419-423-4604

73 - Bill - N8ET  
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419-423-4604

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "KA5T Larry Wise" <lewise@inetport.com>  
Subject: [12800] Debugger #1 Epilogue  
Message-ID: <199702230130.TAA17801@admin.inetport.com>

Well Gang thanks to all who sent words of encouragement during this  
seige...

The badgers are still chortling over the guy who had never wound a  
toroid til the NC38S kit (and wound all of those backwards) who  
jumped into that RadioKit and took most of them out to 'check that they  
were correct'....

Tell you one thing... Now I can check inductors and capacitors at the  
drop of a hat with the trusty MFJ-259....Nothing like doing it to learn how.. :-)

We didn't get th job done, but we now have a VFO thats on frequency  
(subject to verification by those who now have the opportunity to  
joust with not only the original builder's work, but with that of  
debugger #1 as well... :-) )

But who am I to deprive all the others of the 'Joy of DeBugging' too....

Now I can power on my NC38S with a little more confidence...

Didn't even have time to learn how to use the Radio Shack probe and  
and software...

Did pick up a nice little 4.0 AH battery on one of my parts sweeps that  
should run the NC38s for a while... Neat for the bench too. Its a  
BP4-12 ... paid 15 bucks for it.... Don't know if that's a good deal...

Well now to organize all this stuff and get it on the way to Mike....

And tear into that 1/2 bushel of crystals....

And you badgers....Go west.....  
Larry

KA5T Larry Wise Georgetown, Texas lewise@inetport.com QRP-L 89 ex K80SG  
W6HED W4ZTB

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: kellner@usa.acsys.com (Richard G. Kellner)  
Subject: [12819] DigiBrain DDS VFO  
Message-ID: <199702230527.WAA03898@fox.acsys.com>

Did anyone else build the DigiBrain from 3/96 QST? If so, I've made some source code mods which may be of interest to you and you can e-mail me direct for details.

I've corresponded with Jay WB0VNE about making the mods available ... and he talked about posting them to the ARRL site. But in any case, I should be able to send "diff"s from his original posted code which would be useful if you can program the 68HC705's.

If you need the chips programmed, I'm pretty sure Jay would be able to help.

72/73 Rich W5RXP

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: TMOLL@aol.com  
Subject: [12870] For Sale / For Good Cause  
Message-ID: <970223144340\_-1407390065@emout10.mail.aol.com>

The For Sale Part:

Recent purchase of TenTec Argonaut 509 makes available my virtually unused MFJ9020 20m qrp rig with keyer option built in. Any reasonable offer accepted.

The Good Cause Part:

I will use all proceeds from this to acquire and build as many complete 38Special rigs as I can for donation to worthy handicapped recipients. I am working with the Handi Ham group to identify recipients. Check out their web page at [www.mtn.org/handiham](http://www.mtn.org/handiham) if you are not familiar with this organization. I will also take suggestions from anyone on other possible recipients. My objective on the first unit is to get someone that can assist with input on the operator interface design. Input from anyone in this group with ideas or expertise in the ergonomics issues, especially for the blind, would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks and 72,

Tom NoBS

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "jerry" <jerry@otherside.com>  
Subject: [12853] FS MFJ 9040  
Message-ID: <199702231631.LAA01485@nirvana.otherside.com>

I have a good MFJ 9040 w/manual for sale or trade. Asking \$100 or trade.  
Looking for a JPS ANC-4 or may trade it for a 20 meter qrp rig or possibly  
a HW-8 or ?. Thanks

72  
Jerry  
WD9CTB QRP-L 846

jerry@otherside.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Bill Todd <bill@techline.com>  
Subject: [12866] FT-243 Crystals 4 Sale (2 meter)  
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19970223185233.00681b04@mail.techline.com>

Hello Group -

I found some FT-243 crystals that (I believe) can be used for an  
"ancient" 2 meter AM/SSB/CW rig. I am selling them for \$5 each.

Here are the crystal freqs:

|      |                     |
|------|---------------------|
| 1090 |                     |
| 1110 | Example: 142.08 MHz |
| 1115 |                     |
| 1135 |                     |
| 1155 | " 147.84 MHz        |
| 1160 |                     |

Also, out of 2 meter band  
but available anyway

|      |
|------|
| 1195 |
| 1230 |
| 1285 |

If you are interested, please let me know.  
Thanks -

Bill-N7MFB

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: jerryh@webzone.net (Jerry Henshaw)  
Subject: [12888] FW: 38S RIT Mod /Chirp Remover (Long)  
Message-ID: <01BC21B2.817ED700@pm3-2.ppp56.webzone.net>

Hi Gang,

Several folks have asked from my RIT mod circuit.... so I've decided to use the bandwidth again to repost the circuit. I've made one change to the original post... the base resistors are now 10K instead of 2.2K.

Jerry KR5L

-----  
From: At Ease Designs[SMTP:jerryh@webzone.net]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 1997 7:52 AM  
Subject: 38S RIT Mod /Chirp Remover (Long)

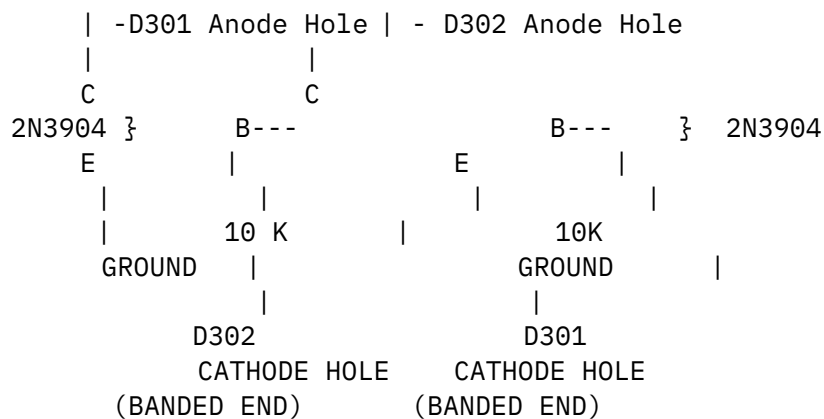
Hi Gang,

Several of you have asked for a schematic of the RIT mod I made to my low power version of the 38S. Here are the symptoms that this mod corrected in MY UNIT (your milage may vary) such are the vagrancies of electronics. I was experiencing considerable chirp at 300mw level into a 50 ohm dummy load. Also, I noticed when you turned the RIT circuit on, it would shift the transmit frequency by 1.5 khz --- not neat feature!!

I removed diodes D301 and D302 in the RIT circuit. and replaced them with two 2N3904 transistor switches. The culprit (in my opinion --- subject to the scrutiny of better minds) is the -R line does not go all the way to 0 volts --- mine drops to 50milivolts. The -T line however goes all the way down to 0 volts with some RF hash riding on it. The 50 millivolt differential will cause the RIT to tune about 1 - 2 khz when switched on.... causing the shift in transmit frequency. With the RIT turned off, the -R and -T lines are "wire ORed" together and the chirp is caused by the small difference in the ground reference point seen by the VX0 circuit. Ori suggests using matched diodes for D301 and D302 --- I felt the 50mv reference difference would be eliminated or reduced by using saturated transistor switches....it worked in my case.

Anyway here is the circuit .....





I made a little homebrew pc board and piggy backed it on top of the D301 and D302 mounting holes. You will notice I reversed the keying logic -R and -T because the 2N3904's invert the logical sense of the original circuit. I hand picked my transistors from my junk box by selecting ones with the highest hfe (gain) the ones I used had gains in excess of 200. I just wanted to make sure the transistors were driven to saturation.

This mod also works in the 5 watt version of the 38S.

Let me know if this mod helped. Also, if anyone has a better (read easier) solution, please share it with the rest of us.

73's

Jerry Henshaw  
KR5L / QRP  
jerryh@webzone.net

ARCI 9165, QRP-L 847, NORCAL 1999  
49er, ARK 20, Wilderness Sierra, (Soon 38 Special)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Randy Hargenrader <randyh@harksystems.com>  
Subject: [12823] FYB0  
Message-ID: <330FDA37.4990@harksystems.com>

The best laid plans of mice and men...  
Wife got sick last night, had to "babysit"  
or at least monitor the house. (we have two  
teen-age boys) So, my mobiling FYB0, including  
A/C full blast was cancelled. Made do with  
running QRPP (950mW) from the home shack on  
alternate power. Worked a few of you guys.  
I worked AB7TT early and late. He was sending  
ALOT slower on the late QS0! Might have been  
another OP. Oh, BTW, Thanks to all of you  
that worked me - you did all the work. All you  
"nearly QR0" ops were a walk in the park to copy -  
NOT! ...think I'll write a letter to QST and  
complain...

Seriously, what little I could operate was fun.  
I liked getting 30F's and 40F's and giving 70F's  
in return!!!

--

73, Randy WJ4P

QRP-L #296 ARCI #9152 1996 40-9er High Scorer

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Vic Rosenthal <rakefet@rakefet.com>  
Subject: [12845] FYB0  
Message-ID: <331064CD.669B@rakefet.com>

Well, I worked about 25 stations in the balmy Fresno 55-60 degree WX.  
The famous Fresno Vertical with its elevated tuned counterpoise worked,  
but in my opinion not well enough to brag about. A number of guys with  
loud signals did not hear me, despite my having a clear shot, and I  
generally got lower signal reports than I gave out. Back to horizontal  
next time!

Hey N4BP: TURN UP YOUR HEARING AID!!! You could have had a lot more Q's  
(well, at least one more)... You were s8 on 20 meters at times here in  
CA, why didn't you hear me?

Other high points: I forgot my lunch, and dropped my antenna on the hood  
of somebody's brand new car, incurring a financial obligation that I  
have yet to find out the magnitude of.

By the way, you guys recounting your FYB0 experiences (etc.): when you  
post messages here, GIVE YOUR CALL! Maybe I worked you.

Vic K2VC0

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>  
Subject: [12867] FYBO  
Message-ID: <199702231857.LAA19350@dancris.com>

Well, what a blast it was. Just got home and unloaded the motorhome, so don't have the log right at hand. Made 19 contacts on 40 and 20, and each one was great. Heard many more sigs, but with some local qrm just couldn't hold up my end. A couple of them were almost in the log when I was qrm'ed out.

Worked with the TenTec Argonaut II into a Butternut HF6v on the motorhom, at two watts. That seemed to to be enough.

Great fun, folks. I'll post the log later, but got to get the rig put back together for the CQC QSO Party later on.

73,

Bob, KI7MN Chandler, AZ ScQRPion QRP-L #271, NorCal #1228, CQC #274, QRP ARCI #8918, AK QRP #30, not in any order of importance.

<http://www.dancris.com/~ki7mn>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: bcutter@teal.csn.net (Bob Cutter)  
Subject: [12880] FYBO  
Message-ID: <203602070642.XAA12550@mailrelay.csn.net>

I only made 9 Q's on 40M. It was 10F at the first one and that is just too cold to expect me or anything to work well.

Great contest and we will be more prepared next year. The ability to key from inside the pocket with a new Kitano(sp) paddle will be a start.

72, Bob KI0G  
QBF? ZUE

Bob Cutter, .....Glenwood Springs, CO

KI0G

bcutter@teal.csn.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "Thomas J. Whalen" <whalen@swcp.com>  
Subject: [12884] FYBO  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.970223155013.22574A-100000@kitsune.swcp.com>

What a great contest!! N5GB0 and I went up to the a picnic ground near the foothills of the Sandia Mtns near Albuquerque. It was an ideal site with table(concrete was cold),and a leantoo. First thing I noticed was the wind. Usually I cuss it, but today it was blowing about 10mph. YES, I can put up the kite!! I really wanted a kite to kite contact with N0UR. We did make a contact but the wind would not blow in MN. We made about 50 contacts mainly on 40m. Just a few stats: Most common pwr level was 5W.Furthest station worked was Panama.Most common temp was 72degrees. Made contacts with the following familiar calls:W6EMT,K5TZY. Temp at the operating site was 40F with wind about 10mph.Thanks Joe for the great idea for this contest....now on to the CQC contest..72, Tom WB5QYT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L Surrency)  
Subject: [12886] FYBO  
Message-ID: <19970223.162445.10254.2.gsurrency@juno.com>

Well, even though I was just set up in the back yard, I managed 37 contacts all on 40m except for one 80m contact.

Worked a couple of VE's, Bob N4BP, and lots of others. Had a mini pileup going for a lil while, then the wife came and got me (right then, wouldn't you know) to come and look at the VCR that was shredding tapes for my 3 yr old.

WB5QYT and his kite antenna was really the strongest signal I heard the whole time, but once it sounded like it hit the ground or something, 'cause his signal took a real "drop". He came back up tho' in a few minutes, so the wind must of have started blowing again. ;-)

Lots of guys started QRMing 7040 and just below, and did any of you hear the Cuban staitions on? C08xx (callsign withheld to protect his identity) had the "classic" hum, buzz, drift characteristics that I hold so dear to my heart from when I lived in central Fla. I started to call him just for fun, but I couldn't keep up with his "unintentional QSY"

long enough to track him down.

Worked 3 QSOs just before calling it quits after 10:30 local time. A few of us were still looking for that last QSO. The S beacon was beginning to drown out the stateside signals!

Figured we'd have to send search and rescue up to Mingus Mt. to get Joe, thinking he'd wound up like the old mountaineer that was in the Robert Redford movie "Jeremiah Johnson". :-)

If conditions had been better earlier in the afternoon, no telling how many contacts we all could have made. I lost a few of you in the QRM, QSB, QRN, so thanks anyway for the efforts. This is about as serious as I ever get during a contest, but next time I may be even more competitive!

Thanks to all the ScQRPions and AB7TT for the good idea!

72 to all,

Gary Surrency AB7MY  
S&S TAC-1(40&80m) and ARK30, AT-11 (QRO and QRP)  
QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix) Grid Square DM43BH  
Az ScQRPions

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "Ed Manuel" <n5em-qrp@msn.com>  
Subject: [12813] FYBO a Bust Here  
Message-ID: <UPMAIL06.199702230355350452@msn.com>

Well,

I got to within 100 yards of the ranger station when the timing belt let go and thus, ended abruptly my FYBO outing. Had a nice 1.5 hr. QSO with a wrecker driver. Next year, though, LOOK OUT.

Ed, N5EM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Pete Hardie <hardie@duke.usask.ca>  
Subject: [12856] FYBO at room temperature  
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.95.970223110405.26350A-100000@duke.usask.ca>

I can't do the outdoor thing and it's lucky for you lot that I didn't.

It was about 10f yesterday and the lowest exchange I received was 36f - I would have won just on the temperature multiplier alone.  
Anyhoo, I worked 15 stations on 20m (no 40/80 until spring) from the comfort of a 72f shack. If I had known that Bruce VE5RC was up on his roof trying to save his house (-) I would probably have tried harder to hand out the VE5 multiplier.

73 de Pete  
ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "Brian K. Short KE7GH" <ke7gh@primenet.com>  
Subject: [12843] FYBO Contest?  
Message-ID: <3.0.32.19970223153406.006a597c@mailhost.primenet.com>

Several comments were received yesterday about FYBO. It must be some sort of Winter Field Day...

I'm sorta QRP challenged, so can someone please send me the rules and/or any other information/programs relevant?

Please reply DIRECT as I receive QRP-L in DIGEST form.

Brian ke7gh@primenet.com >or< <http://www.primenet.com/~ke7gh>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: tahrens1@juno.com  
Subject: [12874] FYBO de W5FN  
Message-ID: <19970223.142536.4903.5.tahrens1@juno.com>

Howdy Folks, & thanks for a great time!  
We started Friday evening with the tent put up in the 'back 40'. Clear skies, no wind, b e a u t i f u l!  
Two of my daughters (7 & 12) figured it would be great to 'camp out' in daddys tent. Was great till about 3am, and the 7 yr old was chattering away... (teeth). I hauled her back into the house & looked at the thermo... 29F!

Great, the multiplier will come in handy (not to be). I got to play a little on 20 early in the contest, but since no module for 15 meters on the Sierra, didn't get to try 15.  
About 23:00, got to go out & play till the end.. gosh, only

55 degs! hey, where are all the players on 40? oh, there are a few... try 80, got some, then went back to 40 for the finale.

Bob - wondered why you couldn't hear very well. You had a great signal on both 20 & 40. Sorry the noise made it tough.

One funny note was when I called KS4IS (who was calling cq test)... I sent all of my spiel, & then had to ask for power, etc.. after I asked how hot her shack was (guess that wasn't the proper way to ask for her temperature?!), she signed off pretty quick! hehe

Anyway, she was in some kind of YL/OM contest!

Thanks to all who played & stuck through it... the guy on the ice made me chuckle (& glad I wasn't him).

CUall

Tim W5FN (40 contacts total)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Bruce Rattray <RATTRAY@siast.sk.ca>  
Subject: [12855] FYBO disaster  
Message-ID: <3528361023021997/A32273/RIEL/11B2BA9B1300\*@MHS>

Oh boy, fybo is here!...well yesterday I was going to get into the contest and really have some fun...BUT Mother Nature and Murphy combined to "make it not so!"...the xyl & I became aware of icicles on the front and back of our house in strange places...a few inquiries brought the news that the 2 feet of snow on the roof was probably causing a condition that traps melting snow where the roof shingles meets the eavestroughing and if left will probably eventually leak into the inside of the house causing "big"water damage...no problem...I'll ask my son & son-in-law to come over and we'll have this thing cleared in an hour or so and then into the FYBO....HAR HAR HAR says Murphy! ...the amount of snow was unreal and after clearing the roof and then snowblowing the tons of snow out to the backyard and our driveway, the clock on the wall show supper time!....good grief!...  
...well ok, time for supper and FYBO!....I fell asleep right after supper and woke up around 9:00 pm....turned the rig on and worked the only signal I could hear WB5QYT.....well there's always next year!...HI HI HI...73 Bruce(VE5RC)  
QRP-L#886 "QRP! zzzzzzzzzz How sweet it is!"

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Chris Cartwright <ccart@dns.vidtel.com>  
Subject: [12817] FYBO from a T+  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.93.970223000927.1243A-100000@dns.vidtel.com>

First of all it was fun!! Only had 5 Q's but it's the quality that counts right? :) It was 66F when I left for the house and 43F when I got back, with the wind 43 can be \*real\* cold. Got to the site and set-up, wind picked up and got to set-up again, drat. Finally put everything but the antenna in the truck and will have pics on the web soon.

Lessons learned: I can copy very fast when everything is repeated three times. The support rope is always 2' to short. Bring something to eat if you're out all day. Bring a light if you know you'll be back after dark (have to go back tomorrow and see what I forgot:) Next year use whole watts if you're in the high point category (N/T).

The tally is (10 Qpts)x(5 SPC)x(4 field)x(2 battery)x(2 QRPp)x(3 43F)=2400  
Can't wait until Field Day, same spot should be there unless the housing market picks up again. Got my first ever DX (OK, so it's only Canada) from a member of the list, he was calling FYBO too! tnx VE3JC!

Just to better my odds, the horror story is, it rained a little and I got a rock in my shoe... (go ahead, top that! hi) 72

|                                           |  |                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| -- Christopher Cartwright, Tech. Engineer |  | ccart@vidtel.com                                                        |
| -- Phone 301.990.0735 N3XRV QRP-L #655    |  | ccart@erols.com                                                         |
| -- 40M WAS/QRP W11/C3                     |  | <a href="http://dns.vidtel.com/~ccart">http://dns.vidtel.com/~ccart</a> |

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: TonyDrumm@ibm.net (Tony Drumm)  
Subject: [12837] FYBO in Minnesota  
Message-ID: <199702231450.0AA43494@out2.ibm.net>

I've been looking forward to FYBO since it was announced. Sounded like a great idea, but I also agreed to handle some packet messages for a local emergency drill in the afternoon. And I'm fighting off a cold. Well, nothing to stop me from setting up my camp station in the backyard.

So, I rummaged through my wire antennas and found a 20m folded dipole. Its short and would be easy to get up, and my only "contest qualified" QRP rig is a 20m Explorer anyhow. I have a 30m Explorer II as well, but no good for the tests. And I didn't expect much SSB action, ruling out the Cascade.



(Well, I do have a 49er, too...)

Temperature was hovering around 30 and looking good for a decent multiplier. Battery was charged and ready. So, just had to untangle the fishing line on the ends of the dipole, about a 20 minute job, and hoist it into the air. Finished up about 1710 or so. Packet activity was scheduled to begin around 3:00CST so I had a few hours.

It was great to hear so much activity for a new contest. I was in and out, working for a period, then warming up my herb tea, eating lunch, etc. Talked briefly on the phone with Dave, KG0ZT, who was playing the contest on 40m across town. The temperature seemed to settle right around 28F. Got as high as 31 and as low as 27. Darn - didn't make the x6 multiplier! (It was 6F this morning.)

At 3:00, I was busy finding "just one more" before I would head in and switch the packet over from APRS to the freq used for the drill. Finally broke myself away, contacted the packet station at the drill and learned that they weren't really ready for me yet. Great! Knew I left the power on to the Explorer for a reason. Found Dave on 20 to get me Minnesota. Hm - what's this white stuff collecting on my gear? And why am I shivering? Looks like it's time to pull the plug.

I never heard any lower temps than my 27, but I figure someone must have seen lower, especially after sunset. Still, it was lots of fun and great to hear calls I recognize like NA5N and K4BP. It was a good idea and thanks to the AZ group for taking it on and making it happen!

Final tally was 27 Q's and 16 states. With multipliers, I get 14,720 points. Still not in the big leagues, but at least it sounds impressive!

72.

Tony Drumm

ARS AA0SM - Rochester, MN

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: "T. PETTIBONE" <tpettibo@NMSU.Edu>

Subject: [12821] FYBO Report for K50I

Message-ID: <Pine.A41.3.95q.970222221822.22842A-100000@hector.NMSU.Edu>

OK, so I decided to join in on the fun... "Honey, please keep the door closed I'm trying to keep the temperature down in here." OK, so it never got below 68F in the shack..I did suffer, I had to shout through the door to get another beer!

Took a big break to go deaf at the Sprint car races this afternoon with my daughter and grandkids. Line noise levels at the house were still pretty bad (at least those I could still hear).

Worked 30 stations (some on 20m most on 40m). Used the TS140S w/noise blanker until line noise died down, then brought up the QRP+, both adjusted to just below 1 watt. GAP Titan did the honors. Had one small run going - didn't have to search and pounce for awhile - that's a treat after the ARRL DX contest where I had to not only search and pounce but hide as well!

Got 14 S/P/C mults, and a x2 for battery power and another x2 for qrpp. Ended up with a total of 1,680 points. Gee, if I had gone to the field I would have had 6,720 points! Didn't work any 1's, 2's or 8's. Oh well.

My log looks like a Who's Who in QRP!

Tim K5OI  
Las Cruces, NM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: William McFadden <wmcfadde@oucsace.cs.ohiou.edu>  
Subject: [12803] FYBO Report from SE Ohio  
Message-ID: <199702230212.VAA28565@oucsace.cs.ohiou.edu>

Southeast Ohio Radio Adventure Team FYBO Report

After much anticipation, the "Freeze Your B\_\_\_ Off" contest has come and gone.

The SE Ohio Radio Adventure Team, consisting of Eric McFadden WD8RIF, Mike Hansgen AA8EB, and John McCutcheon N8XW0, along with guest Len Tough KG8SF, operated from the Athens County Fairground Kiwanis Shelter.

First I should mention that Thursday and Friday were spring-time balmy--gentle breezes and temperatures in the upper 60s. (Can this be February?) Today, however, found Mother Nature delivering strong, gusty winds, temps hovering about 35 degrees, and spitting snow.

Mike and I arrived at the site about 10am local time. I had previously purchased a 20' x 40' piece of 4-mil plastic sheeting and had cut it into five 8' x 20' pieces, for it was our plan to wrap the open picnic shelter with plastic. Mike and I fought the wind for the better part of an hour, having the wind tear the plastic from the staples almost as fast as we could insert them. Finally, Mike had to drive to the hardware store to buy a roll of Duct tape, which we used to reinforce the staple points. We were able, finally, to erect the plastic walls, and they served admirably as wind breaks.

Mike and I then installed the 80/40m fan dipole from our Field Day arsenal, tying one end to the halyard of the flag pole, and the other end to a line thrown into a tree. We also threw a line into the tree to support the end of my W3EDP antenna. (I wanted to try it "in the field", in preparation for a trip to France later this year.)

We set up my QRP+ station and Mike's Scout station on the picnic tables, and set the lab-grade digital thermometer on the table. Len arrived, and set up his S&S TAC-1 and LDG QRP Tuner. I hooked up the W3EDP antenna and tuned it to 20m. Len took the 80/40m feedline. Mike waited patiently for an antenna. (Later, he installed the 20m delta loop from the FD arsenal when as-yet-unlicensed Tom Witherspoon arrived to see how crazy QRPers can be.) We decided that we'd operate indepently with our own calls. Mike and I quickly discovered that even QRP rigs can't operate on the same band. Len showed the rest of us how it's done as he quickly generated pile-ups on 40m. By the time he left about 4pm, he'd accumulated 33 QSOs. I found 20m to be pretty slow going, and worked 11 QSOs before retiring to allow Mike to use the band. Mike worked 6 QSOs in very short order using my QRP+. (He'd somehow managed to turn the sidetone all the way down in his Scout and couldn't fit the screwdriver in to turn it back up.) Sometime during the course of all this we fired up two kerosene heaters, which managed to keep the drafty plastic-wrapped shelter about 42 degrees, some four degrees warmer than the outside--but a lot less windy!

We decided to drop the antennas before darkness hit, so shortly after Len left we took down the antennas, took down all the plastic, and even removed the several hundred staples.

Lessons:

We learned that a winter Field Day can be fun.

We learned that even 42 degrees without wind can be cold, and 38 degrees with gusty wind can be VERY cold.

We learned to unwind a bit of string from the spool before throwing the weight into the tree. (In the far future, small children will look into the

tree and wonder how the spool of string got there.)

We gained a deep and personal appreciation for how sailing ships can be moved by the wind, as two of us wrestled to staple plastic to the shelter posts.

We learned that headphones are a useful but not perfect in allowing us to hear CW over the slap of the wind-driven plastic.

We learned how terribly useful a memory keyer can be when hands are cold.

And we learned that we aren't crazy enough to stay out until midnight playing radio when it's 42 degrees in the shelter. (I have a sincere respect for those of you who braved real cold for more than the six hours we stayed out.)

Same time next year???

72,

Eric

--

W. Eric McFadden WD8RIF Athens OH  
wmcfadde@ace.cs.ohiou.edu  
<http://ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu/~mcfadden>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "Bob Tellefsen-CNSE97" <Bob\_Tellefsen-CNSE97@email.mot.com>  
Subject: [12816] FYBO Report N6WG  
Message-ID: <M1302746.002.1hxm1.1.970223050057Z.CC-MAIL\*/OU=LMPCC10/OU=ILBE/  
PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

What an incredibly beautiful California day!

Dwight (WA6NAE) and I set up in a park overlooking San Francisco Bay, under a cloudless blue sky with green hills around us. Temp was about 50F when we started setup, rising to around 65F out in the sun during the day. We stayed in the shade to keep the operating position temp under 60F :-).

Dwight worked 20m cw and I worked 40m cw. His Sierra and my QRP+ sitting about

1 ft apart with NO interference or receiver desensing. Surprised us both, but very pleased. I had the QRP Autotuner on my rig, as my pre-cut 40m halfsquare wound up resonant at 7315 kHz! Still trying to figure that one out.

Had some tall trees to hang our skywires from, a halfsquare for me and a halfsquare beam for Dwight on 20m. He worked every station he called, so I guess it works just fine.

Found a nice place to set up by the side of the dirt road running through the park. Got all our gear unpacked from the handcart we used, set up the card table and gear, and then went to hang antennas.

Had a small problem. Hung up our two insanely great antennas in appropriate tall trees, even pointing in right directions. Gathered up feedlines to run to gear and discovered my 40m feedline was about 20 ft too short. Can a tree be too tall? So, we picked up the card table with the stations and moved it into a thicket closer to the antennas. Got a lot of puzzled looks from passersby, and a few inquiries as to what we were doing, sitting in a thicket!

Boy, there were times when I thought my QRP+ had shut down. I could find no calls or QSOs going on in the cw portion of the band. Kinda spooky. Then, all of a sudden, several stations would fire up and off we would go again.

Oh, well, we had a great time, and are looking forward to QRP to the Field.

Just finished our tally--49 Qs on 20m, and 33 Qs on 40m, for 33 S/P/C and 528 points. It was fun recognizing all the familiar callsigns as I worked through the log, trying to read our writing after the fact. We're curious to see how others fared.

72, Bob N6WG and Dwight WA6NAE

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: AlK0FRP@aol.com  
Subject: [12824] FYBO results from K0FRP  
Message-ID: <970223005804\_1114480805@emout14.mail.aol.com>

Where were the novice/techs ?????

was about to call Brad kb0rol for at least 1 novice/tech qso but didn't.

ran my Sierra except on 80m (no band Mod)  
about 6.5 hours of operating time  
125 q's    80m, 6    40m, 59    20m, 60  
SPC        80m, 6    40m, 25    20m, 25    combined 34 SPC

now the rules did not say that we could combine Band SPC for a total of 56  
???

worked 3 stations in the novice band but no novice/techs

stayed nice and cozy in my shack at home so no extra multipliers  
good practice for tomorrow's CQC contest.

total score 128 x 34 spc's = 4352  
or 128 x 56 spc's = 7168 ??? Rule guys ???

even though without multipliers the score is very low, but was real fun

worked WS4S at 200mw with a very good sig  
also WJ4P at 950 mw and N3IUT at 900mw  
12 1 watters  
good job ScQRPions you brought them out of the woodwork

Al K0FRP

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Jim NOUR <LAGESON@worldnet.att.net>  
Subject: [12885] FYBO Results NOUR  
Message-ID: <19970223230213.AAA23708@LOCALNAME>

I had visions of setting up in a ice fishing shack on one of our 10,000 lakes, temp well below zero, wind holding up my kite antenna, maybe make a weekend of it. Well I had to settle for a quick 2 hour escape from the family, but I did make it out onto one of our frozen lakes. I ended up driving my van out on Eagle Lake, when I got there there was no wind for the kite, and nice soft snow was coming down. The worst part was the temp had been rising all day, we started at 10 when I got up, and now it was a balmy 24 (above zero), so much for the big mult. Well it was up to my "ham sticks", I had one for 20 and another for 40 meters. I threw the rig and keyer on the dash, plugged them in and found 20 meters hopping, spent a hour there and then screwed on the 40 meter stick and did a hour there, then it was back home to see if the house was still standing. The ham sticks did a great job, not sure if being parked on the ice helped much but ended up with 38 qso's from the lake, did a little from the home shack and ended up with a total of 57 qso's, not bad for only 3 hours on the air. Great to hear so many stations on, great turn out. Sounded like CO was the ice box, KI0G was at 10 deg., and N0TU was sounding a little blue in the fingers at 18 deg., look out next year CO, we take pride in our cold wx up here in MN, lets do

it on Jan. 22 next year, when we can really FYB0!

73/72's Jim N0UR  
QRP-L #799

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: ukii@megsinet.net (ukii)  
Subject: [12804] FYB0 results. BLAST!  
Message-ID: <01BC20FC.D3E244C0@randolph2er1-3.megsinet.net>

Hello Gang...

Well,after a sorry experience with my 38s I decided to play radio and operate for a while. Unfortunately,with me remodeling the house,there is little in the way of antennas up right now.

So,got on FYB0 for about 2 hours and had a BLAST!

I opened my window and got the temp down below 60 for that multiplier! Yes,I lied to my wife and told here I spilled paint and needed to vent the room out,,,

I worked 40mtrs and couldnt beleive all the digital junk I was hearing at 7040..Anyhow,made 9 contacts,farthest being AZ! (home of the scQRPions) Heard a VT station,but couldnt pull him out of the qrm.

I was using my Icom735 down at 2watts. To my astounishment all my contacts were made with my,ANTRON 99 ! I cant believe you guys could actually hear me,,,says alot about YOUR setups!

So,had fun,got cold,lied to wife,drank coffee and amazed myself all in a 2hour period...

Just in closing I would like to say that no matter what your antenna restrictions are,use anything,because "anything" will get you on the air,and these "qrp" people have some fantastic receiving capabilities!

Thanks for a great,fun time ! Looking forward to next year!

Best 73  
de john  
n9ukx  
scQRPion #39

\*\*\* if it doesnt have a sidetone,  
it must be a CB !!! \*\*\*

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Jim and Nancy Larsen <larsennc@alaska.net>

Subject: [12805] FYBO Submissions  
Message-ID: <330FAC0A.1384@alaska.net>

I had not planned to be on at all today and did not save FYBO info. I did copy off the forms and have them filled out, but what address should it be mailed to for submission? Is email or hard copy preferred?

Thanks,  
Jim  
AL7FS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Bob Kellogg <ae4ic@nr.infi.net>  
Subject: [12798] FYBO, N6WG & a long sad tale  
Message-ID: <199702230058.TAA16466@mh004.infi.net>

Gang,

Was working lots of folks on 20M when I heard N6WG - 599 here in NC! Called him, and as I started the exchange, my paddles started misbehaving. Acting very quickly, grabbed a piece of paper and tried to clean the contacts. Of course, while cleaning, I was sending gibberish over the air. Started the exchange again, and still sent gibberish. I could send a few letters, then "Dah"s would start appearing at inappropriate times.

Now, N6WG is still waiting patiently for the idiot he's contacted to begin making sense. -- The idiot realizes it's a keyer problem, not a paddle problem. That's it! - quick as a flash I grabbed the straight key and plugged it in. Heard a solid tone as if it were locked down. Quicker than a flash I unplug the faulty straight key. (no moss grows on my brain)

- Panic - (I'd plugged the mono plug into the stereo paddle jack, and couldn't figure out why it didn't work) - Panic -

Maybe the keyer had a loose plug/jack (has happened) hook it back up, wiggling each plug in its jack. Try again. Gibberish. N6WG says thanks for the great "contact", but, he had other fish to fry.

Unhook the keyer. Check the 9V battery - it's 3.45 volts. Replace battery.

Now my keyer is a CMOS III that's in a Home Brew case with special switch buttons. A thing of beauty, take my word for it. But when you take it apart, the buttons tend to get screwed up if you're not very careful. So, after reassembly, I pushed all six of the memory buttons several times to be sure they were operating freely. Plugged everything back into the rig which has been sitting there on N6WGs frequency. Relax a minute or two, double



check the connections and put on the phones.

WOW! There's a very loud signal right on N6WGs frequency. Wait!!?? Was that my call he just sent??? How did he know I was listening here?? I've been off of the air for 5 minutes, at least. There's my call again - what's he saying?? (YOU IDIOT, IT'S YOUR KEYERS MEMORY, IT'S BEEN SPILLING IT'S GUTS \*ON THE AIR\* BECAUSE YOU PUSHED ALL OF IT'S BUTTONS)

So, I managed to embarrass myself several times in a very short time. A little later, I heard N6WG again, and completed the exchange. His 599 was with 1 watt!! Bob was very kind. He said nothing about me QRMing his frequency.

Is this FYBO fun or what?

CUL,  
Bob Kellogg, AE4IC, Greensboro, NC  
Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: wb2vuo@juno.com (William K Hibbert)  
Subject: [12815] FYBO, the First Run  
Message-ID: <19970222.235710.4575.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>

Work, Work, Work!!! I had to go to the shop in the AM, and didn't get back until 2 PM (1900Z). The portable operation was cancelled due to 40+ MPH winds and gusts over 80 MPH here! The Coast Guard at Lake Ontario recorded a gust of 75 Knots @ Charlotte, near Rochester. That's 86 MPH !!!!! Still, until my wife (Anne, WB1GVL) and daughter returned home, I had the heat off & the shack got down to 51-deg F, and then Anne turned the furnace back on :-(

Lots of fun, anywho...

Can't wait 'till next year! And, the new Argo 556 plays just Fine!

Final tally: 18 QSO's x 10 S/P/C's x 2 (alt Power) x 2 (51-deg) = 720 points

So, that's 18 participants with another scQRP member in their logs...

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, QRP-L #582, scQRP 40, Tech Specialist (ARRL/WNY),  
ARRL Life Member, VP/BARK, Beacon Chaircritter, Rochester VHF Group  
Trustee, KB2YTW/B 10 Mtr QRPP Beacon (250 mW @ 28.2870 MHz)  
"In the Depths of the Great Bergen (NY) Swamp...FN13ac"

Packet - wb2vuo@w2im.#wny.ny.usa.noam  
Email - wb2vuo@juno.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: wa5whn@juno.com (Jay D Miller)  
Subject: [12822] FYB0- NM (WA5WHN), 1800 UTC to 2300 UTC  
Message-ID: <19970222.225132.4495.0.wa5whn@juno.com>

QRP-Lers,

WOW !! Viewing the comet Hale-Bopp (estimated magnitude, from a calibrated eyeball, is now magnitude 1.0) on Sat. morning, and a full moon on Friday night.

W5BI & I had set up within a few yards of each other. We were set up on the side of a ravine @ 6,374 feet asl, at the following location;

Lat. 35 degrees 22' 30.1" N  
Long. 106 degrees 52' 05.5" W

Temperature was 41 deg. F @ 1800 UTC. We had operated from 1800 UTC to 2300 UTC. The temperature had risen to 47 deg. F, then the wind hit. Darn,... The wind was over 30 mph out of the WSW.

We could not operate the whole time period due to a previous committment. However, we did have fun, and heck yes we would do this again next year. I think I had counted over 54 contacts in my log. I don't know what W5BI had in his. It was a joy to talk to everyone out there. NA5N & KK6MC/5 & I had a great QSO, on 40 meters cw. They were south of us ~ 84 miles, on the windy plains of the Pound Ranch. N6CNY & I had chatted for a short period of time too. Yeah, N6CNY was a dupe, but we had still talked, in between contest exchanges :-). I did not work one Az. station :-( . There were 2 other contests on, during FYB0. (FISTS & OM)

15 meters was open (Where were the Novices/Techs ???) Heard a JJ8 calling CQ NA, and worked a LU1, who was not in the contest on 15 meters.

Deja Vue of Riley, wind, and even an airplane flying over us. However, this aircraft was towing 2 drones. One was a magnetometer. I have 2 photos of the aircraft, since he had made 2 passes over us @ 400 feet off of the deck. We could hear the drones whistling, as he had passed over us. (1935 UTC). He was making East to West, and West to East passes over the Rio Puerco (New Mexico) area.

It was a pleasant surprise to hear AL7FS calling me. AC5AM was a powerhouse here (599), also KV9X, W0DC, K1MG, AB7ST, KD0CA, W5BI (obviously), & KA0PQW, all were S-9+. Noticed WQ4RP in the log too. Did

anyone notice the pile up on W1VT @ 1809 UTC on 20 meters (14.059 Mhz) ?  
Nice job Zack. I had kept calling, but it was not to be :-)

The FYBO photos will be sent to Joe-AB7TT (uuencoded of course), plus  
W5BI will probably post our photos on his Web page  
(<http://www.flash.net/~w5bi/>), in the future. We could see Ladrone Peak  
to the south of us (Riley, NM is on the west side of Ladrone), Mt. Taylor  
to the West & the Jemez (pronounced Hey-Mez) to the north of us. A  
fantastic vista to behold. We could look right down into the Rio Puerco.

My thanks to all who had participated and this was a very enjoyable QRP  
Field Day for me. To AB7TT & the scQRPions, a job "well done".

Next up, the NorCal "QRP To The Field", April 26th. SASE to WU7F for  
details. BTW, thanks Bob (WU7F) for the contact today. We will be  
operating from a position that overlooks the "Crash at Corona" debris  
field (one of them), for the QRPTTF.

72 & it was my pleasure...Jay, WA5WHN

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: KG0ZT <pugrad@mill2.MillComm.COM>  
Subject: [12828] FYBO... yes we are having fun  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9702230102.B1473-01000000@mill2.MillComm.COM>

Cold weather and my arthritis don't mix well, so my better judgment  
prevailed and I participated in FYBO from home here in tropical southern  
Minnesota. BTW... this was my first QRP "event"... what a blast!

Rig used was an OHR Explorer II for 40 meters (2 watts), MFJ-971 QRP  
tuner, Embedded Research Atomic-1 keyer, and a "stock" SLV fed with 300  
ohm TV twin lead lashed to the wooden corner post of my raised deck and  
with the radials thrown over the side on top of snow piles. I did  
substitute my Kenwood TS-440 (5 watts) for short use on 20 meters and 40  
meter N/T hunting (none found).

It was my pleasure to share the event with each of my 18 contacts...  
including 3 which were QRO stop-ins. One of which, just couldn't believe  
that 2 watts could produce such a nice signal. We may have a convert!

States worked by band:

40 meters... MI, NY, GA, TX, AL, ID, NC

40 meters N/T... KS, CT

20 meters... CO, ID, WA, MN, AZ

I extend my thanks to the folks who organized the "event" and to each of you who were the other end of each of my QSO's. You made my day!!!

I can't wait for spring so I can enjoy QRP from the park.

```
*****
*                                                                 *
* 72 / 73 KG0ZT   Dave Cary   Rochester, MN                    *
*                ARRL VE     QRP-L # 979                        *
*                                                                 *
*                pugrad@millcomm.com                             *
*                                                                 *
*****
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Richard Sherman <srichard@aldus.northnet.org>  
Subject: [12877] FYB0: WZ2T report  
Message-ID: <3.0.16.19970223204510.3c3f167c@aldus.northnet.org>

Hi Everyone,

The FYB0 contest was a lot of fun, and I had the most contacts I've ever made in a QRP contest, 50. When I got up Saturday morning the temp was 50, which is unusual for northern New York this time of year. By FYB0 time, the temp was down to 30, extremely windy and raining/snowing/sleeting. Before the contest started I had to repair my dipole for the second time this winter, the west leg is now at 5 feet off the ground instead of 50. After a late start, I fired the rig up on 20m and immediately heard AB7TT with a pileup. Couldn't work him so tuned around, heard a few others that I couldn't work so I found a freq to run on. Everything was great most of the afternoon, except when the N6WG QSO came (you're not the only one that had problems when working them Bob). The wind had picked up considerably and as N6WG was beginning his report the power flickered on and off a few times. So after waiting for the keyer to reset and asking for a repeat I did explain to them what had happened. Around 2100z, I decided to take a break and watch MST3K on TV. But then the wind knocked a tree down on the power line and the power was out for 3 hours. No problem, I'll just hook the Sierra up to the battery, plug in the straight key and go back at it. During that time I was only able to work one station, W8KC, and only after bugging him for the QSO (sorry Paul). Do I get to count the battery power and 2w mults for that QSO? I might even be able to claim the low temperature mult for that one too since the furnace was out too. Once the

power came back on I finished up the last hour and got N4BP for QSO number 50.

I haven't totaled the score yet but a total of 50 qso's, (one DX, two QRO), inside @ 70 degrees, and all but one QSO with 5w and commercial power. Rigs: TS-940, NorCal Sierra, Antenna: half fallen down 80/40 trap dipole with center @ 50 feet, east leg @ 40 feet, west leg @ 5 feet and many twists and turns to get to that point, MFJ 493 keyer and 941 tuner, Vibroplex Brass Racer, J-37 straight key.

Thanks to the SQRPs for sponsoring this, see everyone again next year.

72 de Rick WZ2T NNY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: john andrews <jm165723@eee.org>

Subject: [12809] HB: New tapered hand-reamer?

Message-ID: <330FB8C5.3062@eee.org>

Hi Gang:

Much has been discussed regarding the making of holes in our boxes for So-239's etc.

Today at the local hard-ware store saw a "riser extractor" used to withdraw the plastic pipe from broken lawn sprinklers.

Looks much like a tapered hand reamer(and not as sturdy) but might be ok on \*very\* soft aluminum. Anyone have one? Ever try it?

Just curious-

72, John- N5INZ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: Joe Everhart <n2cx@voicenet.com>

Subject: [12841] Info needed re drills

Message-ID: <199702231529.KAA25401@mail3.voicenet.com>

Gang,

Yes this really is related to qrp'ing in the homebrew sense.

Can anyone tell me the decimal sizes for twist drills in the sizes of No. 50 to No. 60? I'd like the sizes for each drill in that range.

If I were at work, I'd just ask an ME, but here at home....

Thanks and...

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

from Southern New Jersey, y'all

work: jeverhart@cayman.vf.mmc.com

home: n2cx@voicenet.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: Dave Adams <adamsclan@netgate.net>

Subject: [12802] IWTFMBOBMWGI

Message-ID: <330FAC98.2057@netgate.net>

Yes, that's I wanted to freeze my butt off buy my wife got ill  
(donated blood and came home sick as a frog)...regardless, listen  
tomorrow (sunday) for the n9uxu call! I packed the station up darnit so  
it is going to the field! (She's feeling better now).

73 de dave, n9uxu

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: Owen Quarles <k1oj@swbell.net>

Subject: [12869] K10J-FYB0

Message-ID: <331099BB.1138@swbell.net>

Howdy from Texas!

Fybo results:

Call: K10J

Ops: K10J,K5ZTY

Tech Advisor: W5SB

Location: Possum Hollow, Texas

Equipment: TenTec Triton, Icom 730 (backup)

20m 8JK,40m 8JK,80m 204ft g5rv

Pwr: 5w battery powered

Low Temp: 48f

150 Qs--80m=24,40m=47,20m=79  
spc=36  
mults=9--field x4, alt pwr x2, low temp 48f x3  
TOTAL: 129,600 pts  
14 scorpions worked from the 'hit list'  
GREAT CONTEST! IT'S A KEEPER!

Thank you all for the contacts. More later....  
CU---OJ---K10J  
HOUSTON, TX  
QRP-L #732  
..

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Mike Duke <gmduke@oscar.teclink.net>  
Subject: [12818] KIT BUILDING FOR THE HANDICAPPED  
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.3.95.970222230240.6660F-1000000@oscar.teclink.net>

I read with great interest the recent thread on this subject.

In 27.5 years of participation in this wonderful hobby where the enjoyment out weighs the frustrations, I have rarely had difficulty finding capable assistance for anyproject including the modification of my early equipment so that I could tune it by ear rather than by eye. Two amateurs once teamed up to construct, from only a hand drawn schematic, a "talking display" which interfaced a talking calculator board with my TS-830. That project took nearly \$200 worth of 1982 parts, and at least 2 complete re-builds. I could have never paid them fully for the time and energy that they spent just because they enjoyed a challenge.

Only once have I ever had to contact someone who had promised to perform a modification and ask him to return the equipment. I felt that a year was a reasonable time to perform a modification which the HW8 Handbook said would only take an hour or so.

I mention that experience only to stress one important point: Don't be affraid to say "I'm too busy," "I need help with this one," or even "Maybe next time."

While we both may feel a bit of frustration initially, we'll continue to share mutual respect for the honesty involved.

72/73, de K5XU

Mike Duke,  
Jackson, MS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "J.B. Fox" <w5hir@mail.phoenix.net>  
Subject: [12832] LDG AT-11  
Message-ID: <199702231331.HAA10201@mail.phoenix.net>

HI- I am about through with the construction of the AT-11. However, I am a bit confused about the L1 and L2 construction. It says 1 on bottom and 2 on bottom, and yet the pix shows L1 and L2 ( L2 shown).. Does this mean 1 turn on the bottom and 2 turns on bottom or what? I don't think that both L1 and L2 S/B the same???

J. B. "Foxy" Fox

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Mark Gilger <mgilger@concentric.net>  
Subject: [12808] LDG TUNER  
Message-ID: <3.0.32.19970222220926.006b7af4@pop3.concentric.net>

I built my QRP version unit with only the tune button and an off/on switch. I was hesitant at first to do this, but was limited in front panel space in the particular cabinet I was using.

After two months of operation, I have found no instance that I would ever have needed the up/down switches. The little thing just works great and matches just about anything that I throw at it.

Good luck to everyone that is building theirs.  
Mark -WB0IQK/8-

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Peter Zenker <100743.3320@compuserve.com>  
Subject: [12876] NorCal40- unbelievable result  
Message-ID: <970223203143\_100743.3320\_EHV128-1@CompuServe.COM>



Hello gang,

after my extreme successful experience with the SIERRA, i tried the NorCal40A. I was surprised about the fantastic signal to noise over the day, but had some trouble at night with overloading the frontend. To explain, what type of problems i am speaking of: My Antenna is a 73meter long off center feed dipole. I use a high level symmetrical matchbox (no balun, real symmetric). At daylight hours i measure abt 5mV at 50 Ohm BEHIND the matcher, after 800 pm utc the sum voltage at 50 Ohm is > 150 mV (300mV without the matcher)  
After some discussions with Wayne, I tried a Cohn filter frontend modification. The result is great. I use the 40A without any attenuator now, and the signal to noise is as good as in the daylight. To be honest, it is as good as with my expensive YAESU FT1000. Thats unbelievable, in fact I have to use the 250 Hz cascaded xtal filters to have a better s/n with the FT1000.

Pat Hawker, G3VA, wrote in his "Technical topics" in RadCom some stuff about different minimum loss filters. In January RadCom there was a very good description of a PA0SE designed Cohn type frontend. I tried it with some slight modifications and it is working great. I loose only abt 4dB gain - in practice on 40meter nearly impossible to recognize without test equipment- an it is possible to work in the evening without any attenuator.

What I did:

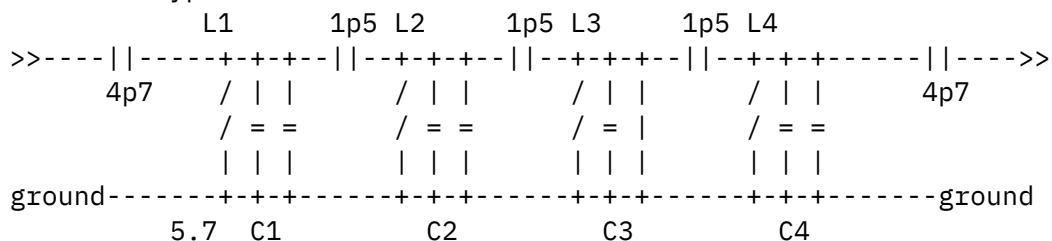
removed C1, L1, T2, C2,C5

coupled input of new filter by 4.7 pF at point RX ANT (former C1 in)

coupled output of new filter by 4.7pF at R2 (former connection between L1 and R2)

47nF between R2 and NE602 input

The Cohn type filter:



L1 to L4 are all 5.72 uF. I used T50-6 by Amidon, 35 turns of 0.5mm coated wire (the same type you send with the kit, but a little bit thicker, because I could not found No26 in my junk box :-)

C1 / C4    87p5 + small trim cap

C2 / C3    86p + small trim cap

I used 80pF (33p+47p ceramic) with a little trimmer cap parallel. All ugly on a piece of copper/epoxy board, the two 4p7 with legs as short as possible between

pcb and new board. I mounted the new board vertical at the left side wall near the place where c1 has been before.

alignment is very easy if you try the minimum maximum method as described in Rad Com too:

RF probe at hot end of L1

ground after 1st coupling c and trim C1 to maximum RF

ground after 2nd coupling C and trim C2 to minimum RF

ground after 3rd coupling C and trim C3 to maximum RF

trim C3 to minimum RF

If your probe has noticeable C then realign C1 with a very small signal.

72 de Peter, DLFI

!^NavFont02F08B70007IGHHOB9186C

E-mail von: Peter Zenker, 23-Feb-1997

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: highland@cityscape.net

Subject: [12883] Polarity protection

Message-ID: <3310C8FB.749B@cityscape.net>

Having recently toasted a couple of op-amps in my ten-tec 1202

SWR/Wattmeter by adding reverse polarity, I would like to mention the tip of using a Bridge Rectifier to prevent this from happening in the future. Wire the power jack to the AC input and then hook the +/- to the appropriate spots in the project., a simple solution that cost, me less the \$3.00 and would have saved my \$6.00 and about an hour of my time to replace the to op-amps.

--

....quietly making noise.....

mailto:highland@cityscape.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: "Steve Hurst" <shurst@magiclink.com>

Subject: [12875] Pots for 38s

Message-ID: <199702232030.PAA185199@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Gang,

Which is best to use for the 1K and 100K pots in the 38 special, Linear or Audio taper ? I would also be interested in finding out what other people are using for the tuning pot, I bought the following from Digi-Key.

100K 1/4 Watt Carb. LNR TPR, part number CT2208-ND.

1K 1/4 Watt Carb. LNR TPR, part number CT2202-ND.

100K 1/4 Watt CARB. AUD. w/sw, part number CT2219-ND.

1K 1/4 Watt CARB. AUD. w/sw. Part number, CT-2213-ND.

These are nice , but kinda small.

Also have the 100 K pots from Radio Shack

100K Linear Taper # 271-092

100K Audio Taper #271-1722

Any and all input is greatly appericiated !! BTW, just viewed the pics on the Norcal page of the different 38 specials out there, sure some nice craftsmanship going into these rigs ! I can only hope that mine comes out as nice !

Thanks for the BW !

BTW, wx here in southern Idaho today , Sunny clear blue skies and around 50 degs , shoulda went skiing today ! Oh well next week !!!!!

73,

Steve Hurst

KA7NOC

<http://www.magiclink.com/web/shurst>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: km@PACT.ORG.PE ()

Subject: [12839] Prior notice \QRP ?

Message-ID: <m0vyfI9-000VIWC@uurcp.rcp.net.pe>

Whoa!

This is an optional identifier -- some folks seem to think that we are plague-carrying and should advise innocents!

Who will provide the scarlet red "\QRP" badges at Dayton next year?

OPINION:

It all depends on your strategy whether or not to use the \QRP identifier:

It might drum up some extra effort at the other end;

Keep the anti-QRP crowd from wasting their and your time;

Attracting rabid anti-QRP nuts to try your skills of preaching  
folks not in the choir;

Subtly surprise folks after establishing the contact and after  
obtaining an honest RST;

My best hope is that /qrp, when calling CQ or responding to a CQ will  
call attention which results in extra effort. In SSB, many times the  
\QRP will elicit a response -- even in pileups -- and the calling  
station will say, "The QRP station, PSE."

Any reason except that we have an obligation to advise folks. Heck,  
if they can copy the call sign and show an interest in trying to call  
or to respond why do they need additional information?

Have a happy day,

72,

Kris  
OA4DBO

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Stew Whitehouse <STEW\_W@compuserve.com>  
Subject: [12806] QRPp finally!  
Message-ID: <199702222143\_MC2-1198-7681@compuserve.com>

Hi folks,  
Just reporting that the USPS has blessed us with  
the December issue of QRPp. Looks like a good  
one.  
72/73 Stew KE4YH  
Dunedin, Florida

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: john andrews <jm165723@eee.org>  
Subject: [12801] QST for March.....  
Message-ID: <330F9F28.1380@eee.org>

Hi Folks:

Yep..read the letter.

At 17 he has opinions....

At 17 I had answers. All of them.

Ho-hum. Anyone seen my dog? Blind in one eye, ear and one leg missing.  
Answers to 'Lucky'. Any help would be appreciated.

72, John-N5INZ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: "Brian.Buydens@usask.ca" <buydens@duke.usask.ca>

Subject: [12849] RIT for the 38 spcl.

Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.95.970223093946.31713A-100000@duke.usask.ca>

As part of my efforts to savour this kit before building it I have been going over the schematic to try to get more details on how it works. One thing that had me mystified was the RIT mod. It finally dawned on me that that one diode goes to R- and the other goes to T-. I am posting this just in case there is someone who is still trying to figure out how the RIT mod works, and knowing this might save them some time.

I also got email suggesting that saturated transistors work better than diodes for the mod. Has anyone posted a schematic of this?

Brian.

```
+-----+
| Brian Buydens,           Computing Services, University of Saskatchewan |
| email: Brian.Buydens@usask.ca           http://duke.usask.ca/~buydens |
| VE5RDV                                     |
+-----+
| Keep Cool, but Don't Freeze                                     |
|           - Hellman's Mayonnaise                                     |
+-----+
```

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: SKIPNC90@aol.com

Subject: [12826] RS Dummy Load

Message-ID: <970223012002\_2061317095@emout19.mail.aol.com>

Hi Gang,

I Bought 2 Radio Shack Dummy Loads the other day right off the rack. Look for them with the CB and Cellular antennas and antenna hardware, usually on the bottom of the rack. There just might be one or two still there in the old Archer pack, Catalog No. 21-506. I have seen them in more that one store and the prices vary as well. I only paid 97 cents each (guess they didn't know what they were good for), but the other stores had them priced between \$7.00 and \$11.00.

73 De Skip, NC90

skipnc9o@aol.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: PDouglas12@aol.com  
Subject: [12872] scope mixer for old scopes  
Message-ID: <970223145335\_445949464@emout14.mail.aol.com>

Gang,

I promised to let folks know about the scope mixer device that was published in the Jan '97 73 Magazine. It is now working and I can say it is a very interesting addition to the operating desk. I can now see my signals as they go out. I was able to easily check the waveform of the 38s output, and could easily tune it to a clean signal. I had it right in the first place, incidentally, so don't worry--if it sounds clean on the big rig, it is probably ok.

This device is a variation of the one in all handbooks except it is even simpler and uses a 2N2222 as the mixer instead of an expensive mixer device.

As usual there is no free lunch. The unit uses a ferrite loopstick (now where did I put that loopstick in 1956?) which I didn't have--cost about 7 bucks from antique radio--see the article for their info.

The other half of the system described in this article is a very good adjustable unit for sampling and switching the station's RF output and together with the mixer, the two units are good for 100watts down to about 200mw. Pretty cool, and it seems to keep sampled voltages well in the safe range, regardless of input power. And it also doesn't seem to affect QRP operations on the air. (That's just in case I find time to actually operate.) Pretty cool, and I feel it was worth the bench time. I am using an old OS-2 Navy scope for this as a dedicated shack monitor. The good Tek scope will remain at the workbench, where it is most useful.

Even if : a) you don't need to extend the range of your scope b) don't like

to build from scratch c) don't plan to look at your output : this article is still good reading. And if you need some or all of the above, or need a good system for sampling your RF output without risking your existing scope, you will enjoy the article.

Next project: The Steve Weber Spectrum Analyzer/Scope Adapter.

72,

Preston WJ2V

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: victorj@fast.net  
Subject: [12833] STL VERTICLE  
Message-ID: <199702231358.IAA28805@post1.fast.net>

There have been several mods for the STL V. Can some one re post the info on the coil and where to find tinned wire?  
thanks  
Vic k3vp

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: JCoote@aol.com  
Subject: [12835] Subscribe/unsub.... how?  
Message-ID: <970223090704\_1181587331@emout07.mail.aol.com>

How does one unsubscribe and subscribe to QRP-L?

Thanks,

Jay  
W6CJ

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Danbookwa@aol.com  
Subject: [12807] Ten-Tec 515 problem  
Message-ID: <970222214544\_-2109806890@emout05.mail.aol.com>

My beloved Argonaut has been developing a problem for several weeks now and I am in need of advice on how to proceed. The problem is that the tuning mechanicals are becoming tight, or loose ? to the extent that the unit will not tune mechanically beyond about 60 % of the dial travel from left to

right. ( to between 3 & 4 on the dial). The problem is not dial cord related. It appears to be inside the VFO, as the concentric shafts work as expected until about the 60% area and then only the internal shaft rotates. If I help the outer shaft with my fingers it functions normally.

To gain entry , or remove the VFO, for service looks like a heart transplant !! - to say nothing about upsetting the VFO functions.

Has anyone else delt with this problem ? Thanks in advance for the devine guidance ! Dan KC8CH ARCI 9060

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: Steven Carr <ae4yq@mindspring.com>

Subject: [12827] toroid half-turns, armchair theory

Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19970223065715.00672518@pop.mindspring.com>

Just scanning thru the past several days worth of qrp-l digests. I didn't see the following solutions to toroid half turns mentioned, so I'll enter them here just for the record.

Since a turn on a toroid is whenever the wire passes thru the center of the toroid, it is impossible to have a non-integer number of turns -- UNLESS WE CHEAT!

The first cheat for this involves the fourth dimension and is too involved to describe here, and therefore I will only mention it in passing in hopes that everyone will think I'm smarter than I really am.

The second cheat has to do with drilling a hole thru the core of the toroid so that the last turn will be a turn around half of the magnetic flux, thereby having the effect of a half turn.

Difficulty in drilling a clean hole, inefficiency due to the added hole, and negligible returns make the second cheat more worthless than the paper it was written on. (Please, don't anyone print this!)

If for some reason anyone feels like they really gotta do this, have fun. Me, I'll just wind the turns tighter.

Steve, ae4yq

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: James Parsons <k5rov1@worldnet.att.net>

Subject: [12846] Toroid info needed...



Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19970223153719.0066f064@204.127.3.1>

I am planning on modifying a home brew QRP rig from 15 meters to 30 meters. I need to know the MIX for a T50-7 (white) toroid. Neither my Amidon manual (old) nor Hamcalc program mentions the -7 series. To calculate the turns for the VFO frequency I plan to use, I need the MIX info. Can anyone help?

Thanks and 73...

Jim, K5ROV

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>

Subject: [12863] Re: "The Letter" (in QST)

Message-ID: <199702231832.LAA18354@dancris.com>

At 10:59 AM 2/22/97 -0500, you wrote:

>Gang..

>

>I just read "the letter". Try to get unemotional about it and read the letter again. The basis for this guy's gripe is valid!..the receiving operator IS doing the work.

>

>I think we owe it to the operator on the other end to let him know IN ADVANCE he will be working a QRP station (by signing "/qrp").

So he will work a weak qro station rather than a weak qrp station? I think he just doesn't want to work at it. All the best apples don't just fall off the tree...you /ve got to pick a few of them.

>All of us and many of

>the rest of the Ham community ENJOY the challenge of working a QRP station

>....but we should not burden those who do not.

>

I don't think it's a burden to listen to any of our signals. Judging from the FYBO contest this weekend, there were lots of qrp signals, and most all of them very readable.

73,

Bob, KI7MN Chandler, AZ ScQRPion QRP-L #271, NorCal #1228, CQC #274, QRP ARCI #8918, AK QRP #30, not in any order of importance.

<http://www.dancris.com/~ki7mn>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "Rich Dailey, KA8OKH" <ka8okh@som-uky.campus.mci.net>  
Subject: [12887] re: 9v TiCK  
Message-ID: <199702232339.SAA12197@aus-b.mp.campus.mci.net>

>I'm building one TiCK as a "stand-alone" keyer. The construction manual  
>calls for a 12v supply. I would like to put the whole thing, including a  
>9 v battery in a Celestial Seasonings tin. Has anyone tried running the  
>TiCK with the 78L05 on 9 volts? The only data sheets I have (1975 vintage)  
>are for the LM78L05C and LM78L05AC and show a typical minimum dropout  
>voltage (Vin-Vout) of 1.7v which suggests that it might work. Would  
>appreciate any comments -- even those that point out how little I really  
>understand about the situation.  
>Thanks,  
>Bob AA0MC

Hi Bob. I've been running my TiCK on a protoboard with a 9v transistor  
battery for a couple weeks now with no problems.

-----  
Rich Dailey - KA8OKH <ka8okh@som-uky.campus.mci.net>  
qrp-1 #933 ars #223  
-----

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Bob Patten <n4bp@shadow.net>  
Subject: [12830] Re: Alaska FYB0 (notice it says YB, not mine.)  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.970223065821.26608A-100000@hyper>

On Sat, 22 Feb 1997, Jim and Nancy Larsen wrote:

> N4BP refused to work me...sniff! I called and called and called and  
> called and called and called and etc. Time was centered around 2226Z,  
> too many others calling the monster station of BP. :-)  
>  
Sorry we missed you Jim. We apparently got out much better than we heard.  
The problem - high RF environment - 1000 foot TV tower with LOTS of other  
transmitters on it. It was noisy!

Bob Patten, N4BP  
Plantation, FL  
n4bp@shadow.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: TonyDrumm@ibm.net (Tony Drumm)  
Subject: [12847] Re: Alaska FYBO (notice it says YB, not mine.)  
Message-ID: <199702231538.PAA73481@out2.ibm.net>

>Bob Patten, N4BP

That's what I get for sending in my report so early in the morning - I goofed up your callsign. Sorry!

72.

Tony Drumm  
ARS AA0SM - Rochester, MN

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "Carol N. Wright" <cnw@hiwaay.net>  
Subject: [12882] Re: Charging Gel Cells  
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.94.970223163156.428A-100000@fly.HiWAAAY.net>

Hey John,

Thanks a lot John, I am getting so many helpful responses, I don't know where to start. Hee Hee! Ok, I'll get the 1.3Ah to charging at about 130mA at 13 volts. So then when the battery is pretty close to being charged then the voltage should be about 13 volts and not drawing any current? So, I am just getting started in QRP stuff, batteries, etc., so excuse my ignorance. I am still charging that 6.5Ah at about 14 volts, about 500 mA, I guess about right? Could be raised to 650mA as you said 1/10th of the Ah rating. Thanks a lot John. CUL.

Best 72 DE Matt, AE4JM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: JCoote@aol.com  
Subject: [12834] Re: Coherent CW?  
Message-ID: <970223090652\_684981251@emout03.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 97-02-21 18:09:17 EST, HeronG@MAILNJ.Dialogic.com (Heron, George) writes:

>I was involved in some discussions with some QEX (I think) experimenters  
>about this over 15 years ago and have since lost track of the subject.  
>Had something to do with phase-locked frequency sync of the transmitter  
>and received, thus allowing very narrow BW operation.  
>  
>Thanks.  
>  
>--George N2APB  
>g.heron@dialogic.com  
>

Well, about 8-10 years ago "Lowfers" (Low Freq Experimenters) in the 160-190  
kHz  
1-watt band were experimenting with it. I recall some of them using sync  
from nearby TV stations and divider circuits to get their equipment on freq.  
TV stations have to be pretty close to freq. On 160-190 KHz there was quite  
a QRN problem. Might look in the "Lowdown" (newsletter of the Longwave Club  
Of America... someone find the address) for CCW articles.  
73, Jay  
W6CJ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: wylde@nccn.net (Grover, K7TP)  
Subject: [12850] Re: CQC CONTEST (date - huh?)  
Message-ID: <v02130503af361b330d66@[205.139.74.233]>

At 7:10 PM 2/18/97, AlK0FRP@aol.com wrote:  
>IT SHOWTIME FOR THE CQC QSO PARTY ON SUNDAY.  
>Greeting from K0FRP  
>Time/ Date  
>2200z on 22nd to 0400z 23rd thats 3pm to 9 pm Mountain time, you figure the  
>rest for your zone.

This couldn't be correct - it would put the contest on Saturday. So I  
assume that it's 3pm to 9pm MST on Sunday. Is that right?

Grover  
K7TP

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: dwink@juno.com (Daniel C Winkler)  
Subject: [12878] Re: Debugger #1 day 7 Final ... >NOT< a Failure!  
Message-ID: <19970223.125523.4951.20.DWink@juno.com>

On Sat, 22 Feb 97 20:31:55 "KA5T Larry Wise" <lewise@inetport.com>  
writes:  
>Well Gang, I declare failure.... Just ran out of runway...

Well, I have enjoyed it \*almost\* as much as Larry (you DID  
enjoy the experience, didn't you?). And I'm sure we will all agree  
that with a longer runway, he would have had no problem getting it to  
play as it should. A week is a pretty short time period when you've  
still got to work and pay attention to family and stuff. I'm sure  
\*I\* could have conquered the beast too, given about... say... 5 years.  
I need a reeeeeal long runway.

NO failure, Larry, just not quite under the deadline.  
Congratulations on a good race! Hey, are there any more broken radios  
out there? This is a neat contest! Thank you all!!! Great fun,  
even vicariously.

73, ; D DWink@Juno.com Dan Winkler N7IVR Seattle, WA

-----whom the gods would destroy, they first make proud -----

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Bob Patten <n4bp@shadow.net>  
Subject: [12859] Re: FYB0  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.970223123538.9519A-100000@hyper>

On Sun, 23 Feb 1997, Vic Rosenthal wrote:

> Hey N4BP: TURN UP YOUR HEARING AID!!! You could have had a lot more Q's  
> (well, at least one more)... You were s8 on 20 meters at times here in  
> CA, why didn't you hear me?

>

Or more appropriately, "turn down your noise level". Had a lot of busted  
contacts that I couldn't pull through all the RF noise up on that 1000  
foot TV tower. Sounded almost like impulse noise, but the TS-130V's  
noise blanker wouldn't touch it...

Bob Patten, N4BP  
Plantation, FL  
n4bp@shadow.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: martin38945@juno.com  
Subject: [12864] Re: FYBO  
Message-ID: <19970223.133359.6399.3.martin38945@juno.com>

Dear Vic, Bob and Friends,

>On Sun, 23 Feb 1997 12:37:42 -0500 (EST) Bob Patten <n4bp@shadow.net>  
>writes:  
>On Sun, 23 Feb 1997, Vic Rosenthal wrote:

> "turn down your noise level". Had a lot of busted contacts that I  
couldn't pull through >all the RF noise up on that 1000 foot TV tower.  
Sounded almost like impulse noise, >but the TS-130V's noise blanker  
wouldn't touch it...

>

Hey... my rig must be working... Bob pulled me out twice... on 20 and 40.  
Bob, did you work 80? My xtal ball sees an ANC-4 in your future, Bob.  
Davis has the best deal, I think. Thanks for being there... and digging  
me out of the QRN. You were my first QSO in FYBO... not first this  
year... first *\*ever\** !

vy 73,

Martin W9XN QRP-L #998

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>  
Subject: [12881] Re: FYBO  
Message-ID: <199702232216.PAA05206@usr10.primenet.com>

(For whomever asked, S/P/C multi is overall, not per band. Tnx!)

Randy (WJ4P) wrote:

> I worked AB7TT early and late. He was sending  
> ALOT slower on the late QSO! Might have been  
> another OP.

Nope, me. That 30F I sent you didn't factor in the wind up on a 6700+' ridge. Yikes! Think I may have been better off working the straight key with my nose. :-)

Full report to follow very soon (WAHOO!), but at the moment I'm on a critical mission to do nice things for my wife. If she asks, I wasn't on the computer, I definitely wasn't sending email, and without a doubt was not talking ham radio... ;-)

\*Very\* heartfelt thanks to all who helped FYBO become a reality: Organizers, promoters, prize donors, and of course all of you who worked FYBO! Not sure if I'll ever be able to thank everyone individually, but I sure will try. We ScQRPions are in your debt.

Glad lots of fun was had! That's the name of the game. Hope all the field ops made it home safely.

Hope to work CQC if my marriage will survive it. :-)

Frozen Chosen ScQRPion team had a blast! Full details coming soon! (I worked 31 states and 2 provinces 2xQRP - I'd say this QRP stuff works... ;-)

Thanks to all. Really.

Cheers de AB7TT (ex-KC7NEV),

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions (Mountain/Portable)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "Bob Follett" <bfollett@ditell.com>  
Subject: [12810] RE: FYBO Report  
Message-ID: <199702230333.UAA30211@mars.ditell.com>

Hi Gang:

I knew this wasn't going to be good when I got up and the temp. was 7F. I decided to wait until 11am local, to get 'some' warmth. While I was packing up the stuff, a neighbor called, and was frantic. Pipe had burst, and water was everywhere. I ran over, shut off the water to her furnace humidifier, and it turned out, it was so cold, the air through the furnace room vent had turned the pipe to ice! Bad oman!

I returned home, finished packing, set up operation in the snow, and found I

couldn't send cw worth a damn with gloves. The sun was out, and I took the gloves off, and got down to business. Worked NG1G, my first VT, and started switching back and forth between 40 and 20M.

Worked my younger brother, Joe, AB7TT, :-) with a huge 59 signal booming in.

Then, after about an hour of operating, I noticed the clouds had come in, the temp dropped from 29F to 26F in a matter of minutes, and my hands were shaking, even though I put my operating hand in my pocket between contacts. Then light snow....falling on my QRP+ and me.

Time to end this craziness, and pack up. No one told me that RG58 turns into hardline at 20+ degrees :-) Sort of stuffed it into the car, to let it warm up.

I made 8 contacts in an hour, if I count Paul, NA5N. We exchanged full reports at this end, but no verification at his end. I had three states on 40M with 599 signals. Not bad!

Sure, I'd try it again next year, but I think I might try my fishing gloves with the fingers cut out next time. Great fun Joe, thanks for organizing it with the rest of the ScQRPions.

73, Bob, ScQRPion # 31

-----  
Bob Follett AB7ST, QRP-L # 129, NorCal, ARCI, 10-10, ARS  
2861 Estates Dr. VOICE: 801.649.6457  
Park City, UT 84060 E-mail: bfollett@ditell.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: TonyDrumm@ibm.net (Tony Drumm)  
Subject: [12848] RE: FYBO Report  
Message-ID: <199702231538.PAA86518@out2.ibm.net>

>Then, after about an hour of operating, I noticed the clouds had come in, the  
>temp dropped from 29F to 26F in a matter of minutes, and my hands were  
>shaking, even though I put my operating hand in my pocket between contacts.  
>Then light snow....falling on my QRP+ and me.

Sounds familiar. It was nice and sunny here while I was setting up my antenna, but the clouds rolled in soon after. Didn't affect the actual temp much, but sure felt colder.

>Sure, I'd try it again next year, but I think I might try my fishing gloves  
>with the fingers cut out next time. Great fun Joe, thanks for organizing it



>with the rest of the ScQRPions.

I told my wife that my hands were getting cold since I had to remove the gloves to write and send, and she also suggested getting a pair with the fingers cut out. I did do a couple exchanges with the gloves on. As my hands got colder, I'm not sure which way produced worse CW!

72.

Tony Drumm

ARS AA0SM - Rochester, MN

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: martin38945@juno.com

Subject: [12825] Re: FYBO Report for K50I

Message-ID: <19970223.010136.3823.2.martin38945@juno.com>

On Sat, 22 Feb 1997 22:40:35 -0700 (MST) "T. PETTIBONE"  
<tpettibo@NMSU.Edu>

>My log looks like a Who's Who in QRP!

After all these years... I finally made "Who's Who"... not once, but twice!

>

>Tim K50I

>Las Cruces, NM

Thanks for being there.

Martin W9XN QRP-L #998

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: "Zack Lau" <qrp-l-list@arrl.org>

Subject: [12851] Re: FYBO- NM (WA5WHN), 1800 UTC to 2300 UTC

Message-ID: <33106B99.3DB0@arrl.org>

Jay D Miller wrote:

> WOW !! Viewing the comet Hale-Bopp (estimated magnitude, from a  
> calibrated eyeball, is now magnitude 1.0) on Sat. morning, and a full

> moon on Friday night.

I spotted it this morning for the first time just knowing it was somewhere in the northeast sky--its a comet alright--even in light polluted central CT. Of course, I only saw 1/2 degree of tail :-(.

> anyone notice the pile up on W1VT @ 1809 UTC on 20 meters (14.059 Mhz) ?  
> Nice job Zack. I had kept calling, but it was not to be :-( .

Conditions were good to Europe that morning--PA0RBO, FB1PKC, IK3RJQ, I2IAL, F6UIG, G3PBQ, and EA3ADV (18 minute chat!) all 2X QRP so I didn't start fixing the fried rotator controller till after the contest started...and move the beam SW.

Weather was too lousy to go out in the field--it got up to 69 degrees--and I know better than to try to set up a station in the mud. Not to mention the very light rain, high winds and a threat of a thunderstorm...Its actually less dangerous when its just cold enough to keep everything dry...

So, I ran the pileup, went out to have ice cream and wash the car. Then popped back in and ran another pileup for 31 Qs in an hour of operating.

--Zack W1VT  
zlau@arrl.org

BTW, I plaster QRP all over my CQs--I hunt for QRP signals underneath stronger signals :-).

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: tahrens1@juno.com  
Subject: [12873] Re: FYBO- NM (WA5WHN), 1800 UTC to 2300 UTC  
Message-ID: <19970223.142536.4903.4.tahrens1@juno.com>

Drones, what drones? Remember that Chuck said he couldn't make it? Did you know he was a pilot? That was just a little recon for next year.. just wait... 5s rule!

hehe

Tim W5FN

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Dan Hogan <dhhogan@lightside.com>  
Subject: [12861] Re: Info needed re drills  
Message-ID: <3.0.16.19970223095506.211705ba@mail.lightside.com>

Joe:

>From the, Data Book for Homebrewers and QRPers, by Paul Harden NA5N:

|          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 50- .070 | 55- .052 | 60- .040 |
| 51- .067 | 56- .047 |          |
| 52- .064 | 57- .043 |          |
| 53- .060 | 58- .042 |          |
| 54- .055 | 59- .041 |          |

P.S. It's available from HB Electronics(HB.Electronics@Busissneson.com) for \$20.00.

All the usual disclaimers.

At 10:29 2/23/97 -0500, Joe Everhart Wrote

>Gang,

>

>Yes this really is realted to qrp'ing in the homebrew sense.

>

>Can anyone tell me the decimal sizes for twist drills in the

>sizes of No. 50 to No. 60? I'd like the sizes fo each drill

>in that range.

[Snip]

72/73

Dan Hogan WA6PBY QRP-L #558, CQC #340, NorCal #1806,  
dhhogan@lightside.com ARRL, ARCI #3847, G-QRP #9533, FISTS #2949  
Lat. 34d 03.5'N Lon. 117d 56.0'W Grid: OM84wc

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Joe Everhart <n2cx@voicenet.com>  
Subject: [12868] Re: Info needed re drills  
Message-ID: <199702231926.0AA22419@mail3.voicenet.com>

Gang,

Thanks for all the replies!

This group is a super resource! Not only did I get the info I needed, but I learned a valuable lesson. Several of you mentioned that the info was in Paul Harden's Homebrewer's Data Book.

Honest, I looked there first, but missed the table! Dumb. :-)

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

from Southern New Jersey, y'all

work: jeverhart@cayman.vf.mmc.com

home: n2cx@voicenet.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997

From: Owen Quarles <k1oj@swbell.net>

Subject: [12854] Re: Proamm Monoband Mobile Antenna Woes

Message-ID: <331065D6.6099@swbell.net>

Howdy from Texas Jess!

Your problem with the Pro Am sounds like an open connection between the wire used in the antenna and the threaded tip of the antenna. I had nearly the same problem with one of mine. I found that the epoxy used to secure the fiberglass shaft to the metal base is not very good and after one or two low tree limbs the joint comes loose. The only thing holding it in place then is the solder connection to the wire and the Heat shrink tubing. Next low tree limb then opens the solder connection. Split the heat shrink at the base and check the solder connection and the epoxy connection. I used a good 2 part epoxy from the local auto store and re soldered the connection after filling away some of the chrome on the metal tip. A short piece of shrink tubing will finish the job.

CU---OJ---K10J

HOUSTON, TX

QRP-L #732

..

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: ac4gt@juno.com (Nathan C Tart)  
Subject: [12857] Re: Proamm Monoband Mobile Antenna Woes  
Message-ID: <19970223.121800.4759.1.ac4gt@juno.com>

On Sun, 23 Feb 1997 09:44:22 -0600 Owen Quarles <k1oj@swbell.net> writes:

>Howdy from Texas Jess!  
>Your problem with the Pro Am sounds like an open connection between  
>the  
>wire used in the antenna and the threaded tip of the antenna. I had  
>nearly the same problem with one of mine. I found that the epoxy used  
>to  
>secure the fiberglass shaft to the metal base is not very good and  
>after  
>one or two low tree limbs the joint comes loose. The only thing  
>holding  
>it in place then is the solder connection to the wire and the Heat  
>shrink tubing. Next low tree limb then opens the solder connection.  
>Split the heat shrink at the base and check the solder connection and  
>the epoxy connection. I used a good 2 part epoxy from the local auto  
>store and re soldered the connection after filling away some of the  
>chrome on the metal tip. A short piece of shrink tubing will finish  
>the  
>job.  
>CU---OJ---K10J  
>HOUSTON, TX  
>QRP-L #732  
>..  
>  
>  
>To go a bit further... I know that antennas are getting as  
expensive as can be...but the proamm ants I have bought  
are not really worth what they cost.. Who wants to keep  
climbing to make repairs that should not be required..  
Just my opinion based on experience..

Nathan AC4GT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: wylde@nccn.net (Grover, K7TP)  
Subject: [12860] Re: QRP WAS - Happy Dance Time!  
Message-ID: <v02130505af3621b69503@[205.139.74.195]>

Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions (Phoenix) spake thusly:

>PS- How old do I have to be to learn that Secret O.F. Handshake? :-)

Let me tell you something you young whippersnapper - when you get to be an OF you can't remember the secret handshake anymore.

.073

Grover  
K7TP

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: "Michael Tracy" <qrp-l-list@arrl.org>  
Subject: [12844] Re: QST Index Search  
Message-ID: <33108DA4.2207@arrl.org>

Ken,

The latest version now covers through 1995 and you can find it on the web at:

<http://oak.oakland.edu:8080/pub/hamradio/arrl/bbs/programs/qstsearc.zip>

or

<ftp://oak.oakland.edu/pub/hamradio/arrl/bbs/programs/qstsearc.zip>

However, you can also search 1972 through 1996 using your web browser's find feature by going to:

<http://ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu/~mcfaddenv/qst.htm>

73, Michael Tracy, KC1SX, ARRL Technical Information Services  
Email [mtracy@arrl.org](mailto:mtracy@arrl.org)

CHARLES K BROWN wrote:

>

> You can do your own search of information from the yearly

> indexes of QST with QST Search by WB2PKG.

> My version starts at 1992 and goes back to 1977.

><snip>

> Ken Brown, N4SO

> QTH Near Mobile, AL  
> QRP-L #622  
> n4so@juno.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: k5zty@juno.com (WILLIAM A STIETENROTH)  
Subject: [12812] re: QST Why QRP letter thread  
Message-ID: <19970223.033936.5207.1.k5zty@juno.com>

I'm tired of hearing that old saw about the heros on the recieving end having to work so hard to make our QRP rigs work. HORSEFEATHERS  
I pulled signals out of the noise last weekend during the ARRL CW DX contest that were giving a KW exchange and I was QRP. There is more to weak signals than lack of power. A good op pulls 'em out and logs 'em, all of the others whine about 'em being weak.

72,  
Bill, K5ZTY

WITHOUT CW, IT'S JUST CB  
ARCI 8817, CQC 178, NOR-CAL 1321, MI 1472, NE 440  
QRP-L 473  
.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: DCrespy@aol.com  
Subject: [12831] Re: sending /QRP and "the letter"  
Message-ID: <970223083120\_1382360942@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Dave

In a message dated 97-02-23 05:11:11 EST, you write:

<< So, I don't support your /QRP idea. If I can hear someone, I work them no matter what power they are running. Some of the weakest stations I've heard were running 100W !  
>>

I have had a few others point this out. I agree that it is also a really valid point. The receiving operator does the work with a weak signal, BUT HE ALSO MAKES THE DECISION TO DO SO!!!! I'll guess I have some crow to eat!!

Thanks and Regards 72/73

Harry KG5LO

Saline MI

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Ed Tanton <n4xy@avana.net>  
Subject: [12858] Re: Toroid info needed...  
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.19970223123030.009975e0@tiger.avana.net>

Hi Jim... there was an aAmidon reference page listed here-or somewhere-a month or two ago and one of its tables does list T-50-0... perhaps there are others... it is an extensive site. The URL is shown below. Good Luck.

<<http://www.bytemark.com/amidon/contents.htm>>

72/73

Ed Tanton N4XY EMAIL: n4xy@avana.net TEL: (770)579-3933 V/MBX/FAX  
189 Pioneer Trail  
Marietta, GA 30068-3466

QRP-ARCI#7663 G-QRP#6779 OK-QRP#172 QRP-L#758 AdvRC#140  
NORCAL#1779 NCDXF SEDXC

Life Member: ARRL AMSAT IDRA INDEXA QCWA  
URL: Coming Sooner or Later

"Think you can, think you can't: either way you're right!" Henry Ford

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: k5zty@juno.com (WILLIAM A STIETENROTH)  
Subject: [12811] re: Why QRP letter  
Message-ID: <19970223.033936.5207.2.k5zty@juno.com>

A 17 year old kid who has been licensed for 6 months sure has a bunch of old farts stirred up doesn't he? Geez. What's the threat?

Bill, K5ZTY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: k5vp@earthlink.net (Kevin Potter)  
Subject: [12820] re: Why QRP letter  
Message-ID: <v01540b00af3586c3a0b5@[206.250.92.114]>



>  
>A 17 year old kid who has been licensed for 6 months sure has a bunch of  
>old farts stirred up doesn't he? Geez. What's the threat?  
>  
>Bill, K5ZTY

I believe it's a 'rite', as becoming an old fuddy-dud ham.

I think we oughtta get this kid & lynch him good on 80 meter phone one evening soon. Then we can talk about for years to come.

(BTW, I'm only joking!) 8-P

Gotta go fart, now.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>  
Subject: [12799] re: why QRP?  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.970222172048.728B-100000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

On Sat, 22 Feb 1997, William R Colbert wrote:

> Going to be  
> very interesting when the EPA/FCC rules are enacted and all those  
> running over the 50 watt level have to fill out many forms, certify  
> radiation levels and file reports to the government that they  
> have the equipment to measure the above mentioned levels whereas those  
> of us running QRP are mostly exempt (unless there is a change in the rules)  
> because of the low power levels we run.

Hi Ray,

You really don't think anyone will be silly enough to really fill out forms do you?

Sam Colt has the best tools to use on forms like that!

cul,

73, Ron, SOWP 5545M,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada.....  
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Feb 23 18:04:53 1997  
From: dwink@juno.com (Daniel C Winkler)  
Subject: [12879] Re: WI Fox Results - Feb 21-AE9K  
Message-ID: <19970223.125523.4951.24.DWink@juno.com>

On Fri, 21 Feb 1997 09:41:11 -0800 "Michael A. Gipe"  
<mgipe@reliablemeters.com>

....  
>There is one setback to report. The secret listening devices that we  
>planted in the 2N2222 cases are not yielding the information that we  
>hoped. . . .

>target may have damaged the tri-polar omnidirectional antennas (the  
>ones  
>made to look like preformed transistor leads) by bending them. ...

Fools. Lead bending would cause only a minor decrease in signal strength. The real problem was that you used colinium multiplanar TRIDOS devices and they simply could not take the heat of being soldered in. If you check, I'm sure you will find that only those devices not yet actually incorporated into a kit were responding properly. This was partially offset because some of the "targets", realizing the "2N2222" was not connected to anything useful in the circuit, and did not install them. Your efforts were also nullified by the "targets" who knew what you were up to, and carefully installed the units with "sub-low" (TM) solder, and then fed you disinformation.

I am not supposed to reveal myself or take sides in these squabbles, but frankly the behavior of the other side has moved me. You have been outdone in knavery, though you do not know it. Yet. May the force be gentle with you.

(Signed, Monitor/Proctor 74,  
Ursa Minor delta 5 representative,  
Grundis/ Sol 3 Survey Expedition)